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FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO — FAR

The Official Journal of the Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc.

NOVEMBER 1999

Rules and Regs • ARRL Report • VE Exams Schedule
Public Service Report • DX Column • Regional Hamfests
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AUTO-CALL is published monthly as the Official Journal of the Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. Comments made by columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Foundation. No effort is made to investigate advertisers, therefore no warranty can be implied. Entered as third class non-profit matter at the Arlington, Virginia Post Office. Subscription rate is just $8.00 per year.

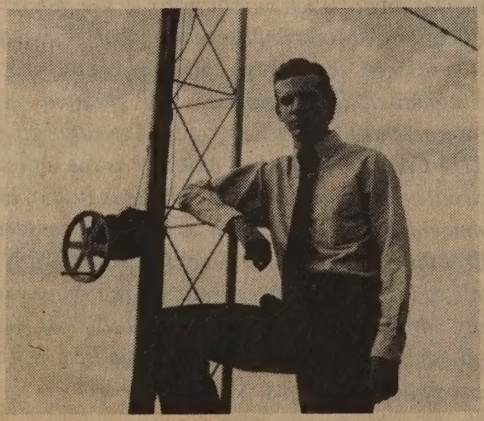
Regional Hamfests and Other Events

Oct. 2	Eastern Area Traffic Handlers Picnic, Davidsonville, MD	
Oct. 3	Pack Rats Hamfest, Grange Fairgrounds, Bucks Co., PA	215-271-8898
Oct. 5	Novice/Technician Training Course - HEMARC, Linthicum, MD	
Oct. 5	Novice/Technician Training Course - MARC, Gaithersburg, MD	
Oct. 10	CARA Hamfest, Howard Co. Fairgrounds, Columbia MD	410-796-2587
Oct. 13	Foundation for Amateur Radio Meeting, Takoma Park, MD	
Oct. 23	Regional Tri-Service MARS Meeting, Fort Detrick, MD	
Oct. 24	Mason-Dixon Computer & Hamfest, Westminster, MD	410-374-9233
Oct. 24	Marine Corps Marathon, NCAC ARES support event.	
Oct. 30	National Airport Mass Casualty Exercise, NCAC ARES support event	

NEXT FOUNDATION MEETING

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. meets at 8: p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. **Visitors are always welcome!** The next meeting will be held November 10th at the Lee Center, Alexandria, Virginia. Take Capitol Beltway to Exit 1 (US 1 North). North to the second traffic light, left on Gibbon Street to Fayette. Left on Fayette to dead end at Lee Center Parking Lot. The meeting is conducted in the conference room near the main office of the center.

Talk-in on 146.55



On The Cover

Pictured on the cover of *Auto Call* this month is Kyle Britain, KB5UBE, from Grand Prarie, TX. Kyle is one of sixty-seven recipients of this years' Foundation for Amateur Radio scholarships. The Foundation for Amateur Radio salutes all 1999 scholarship winners!

American Radio Relay League Report

By John Swafford, W4HU

The purpose of The ARRL Letter is to provide essential news of interest to active amateurs promptly and efficiently, and in advance of publication in our official journal QST. The ARRL Letter strives to be fast, accurate, concise, and readable. Material from The ARRL Letter may be reproduced in whole or in part in any form, including photo reproduction and electronic databases.—Credit must be given to The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League.

ARES/RACES CONTINUE FLOOD RESPONSE

Amateur Radio Emergency Service and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service groups in North Caroline and Virginia continue efforts to respond to flooding resulting from Hurricane Floyd. Some parts of the region received additional rain this week as a result of Hurricane Gert.

North Carolina suffered its worst flooding disaster ever due to Hurricane Floyd. "As far as I can tell, we're still on the uphill slope," North Carolina Section Manager Reed Whitten, AB4W, said this week. "There's no reason to believe things will get better soon." Whitten estimated that upwards of 300 amateurs statewide are actively involved in the Hurricane Floyd response. Whitten said hams are staffing EOCs and shelters, handling traffic, and acting as net control stations, as well as supporting outside relief efforts by the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and others.

"Amateur Radio Emergency Service/RACES is providing backup communications between the eight Southern Baptist Convention mobile kitchens and the American Red Cross to support their joint feeding efforts," Whitten said Thursday. He said the Red Cross also enlisted Amateur Radio technical assistance in locating a site for and installing a Red Cross UHF repeater system. "This system, using Red Cross equipment, should be operational early next week," Whitten said.

The American Red Cross currently is housing some 6000 people in 65 shelters in North Carolina, and hams also are providing communication for evacuees. The Salvation Army is operating mobile feeding units and one shelter.

Relief operators continue to be scheduled to travel into hard-hit Edgecome County. Amateur Radio operators also are providing communication for the State Emergency Operation Center in Raleigh and in Pitt, Edgecome, Craven, Hertford and other counties. Amateurs from North and South Carolina have traveled to the affected area to assist.

Most of the problems result from flooding of the Tar, Neuse, Cape Fear, and Lumber, rivers in eastern North Carolina. The town of Tarboro was completely cut off by the flooding of the Tar River, and relief workers have had to be transported in and out via helicopter.

While most amateur traffic is being handled on VHF and UHF, the statewide Tar Heel Emergency Net on HF is operating from 8 AM until midnight to support state amd county operations. Whitten has requested that the FCC rescind the voluntary communications emergency for 3923 and 7232 kHz in North Carolina.

To the north, Virginia Section Manager Lynn Gahagen, AF4CD, reports the City of Franklin—near the North Carolina border—has experienced its worst flooding ever with the downtown area

Continued next page

and businesses under more than 12 feet of water. Nearly all traffic going in and out of Franklin—including police and fire communication—is being handled by ham radio. He said hams were using VHF and repeaters for the most part, and he predicted telephone service could be out for another couple of weeks or more.

Elsewhere, the Southern Florida ARES Net activated on HF as Tropical Storm Harvey brushed Southern Florida Monday and Tuesday. Assistant SEC and Net Manager Jim Goldsberry, KD4GR, reports more than 400 people took advantage of Red Cross shelters in Pinellas County overnight. Other shelters were open in Lee and Polk counties. The EOC was staffed in Highlands County.

The Hurricane Watch Net activated this week for Hurricane Gert. Net Control Station Mike Pilgrim, K5MP, said Hurricane Gert passed to the east of Bermuda leaving only minor damage. The Net closed after it became clear that Tropical Storm Harvey had ceased to be a threat.

PROFESSIONAL MEDIA AWARD DEADLINE LOOMS

Friday, October 1, is the deadline for entries in ARRL's professional media award. Previously announced as the Golden Antenna Award, the official name was changed to honor the late Bill Leonard, W2SKE, a former President of CBS News. This award will go to a professional journalist—or group—for outstanding coverage of Amateur Radio in TV, radio, print or multimedia. The winner will receive an engraved plaque and $500.

In Amateur Radio circles, Bill Leonard is remembered for his 1958 contribution to Sports Illustrated, "The Battle of the Hams," which describes the "sport of DXing." In November of 1996, Leonard was inducted into the Broadcasting and Cable Fall of Fame. Leonard became a Silent Key in 1994.

"We feel that Bill's impressive news career and dedication to Amateur Radio makes him the perfect namesake for this award program," said Dave Bell, W6AQ, Chairman of ARRL's Public Relations Committee. Members of the PR Committee will judge the entries and select this year's winner.

HARVARD'S W1AF: 90 YEARS OLD AND STILL GOING STRONG

The Harvard Wireless Club celebrates its claimed status as the oldest Amateur Radio club in the US with a special event operation on the weekend of October 2-3. During the club's 90th anniversary observance, members will attempt to work as many stations as possible around the world.

The Harvard Wireless Club—an ARRL-affilated club—dates its origin to early 1909, when it was founded by Prof. George W. Pierce. First known as the Radio Society of the Institute for Geographic Exploration at Harvard, the club assumed its current name the following year. The W1AF call sign dates back to the early 1920s. Frank Wright, N3OQB, is the current club president.

This year's 90th anniversary special event October 2 and 3 will include operation from three HF positions and one VHF position. W1AF will be on the air each day from 1200 to 0000 UTC—24 hours in all. HF SSB frequencies include 389, 7270, 14,270, 21,370 and 28,390 kHz. HF CW will be 35 kHz up from the lower band edges. On VHF, look for W1AF on 50.150, 144.200 and 432.150 MHz SSB

A special 90th anniversary QSL card will be available for stations working W1AF during the special event. QST to Harvard Wireless Club, W1AF, Harvard University, 6 Linden St, Cambridge, MA 02138. For more information, contact the club at w1af@harvard.edu. The club's Web site is at http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/~w1af/ .

IN BRIEF:

* Taiwan hams seek clear frequency for

Continued next page

earthquake traffic: Following the severe earthquake September 21 in Taiwan, hams there set up an emergency network on 7060 kHz. In an internet posting, Michael Chen, BD5RV/4, has asked hams to keep that frequency clear for emergency communication, and to listen on that frequency for any BV signal and help to relay. The 'quake and aftershocks have claimed more than 1700 lives and injured upwards of 10,000 people.

* Ham radio may have TV role: Amateur Radio may play a role in NBC's new show Third Watch, which premiered September 23 (the show's regular time slot will be on Sundays at 8 PM Eastern). Several months ago, ARRL Media Relations Manager Jennifer Hagy, N1TDY, was contacted by a production company staff member who wanted information on ham radio. At the time, she said that one of the main Third Watch characters would also be an Amateur Radio operator. No word on how large a role ham radio might have.

* AMSAT-NA directors elected: AMSAT-NA has announced the results of its Board of Directors election. Chosen to serve two-year terms on the board were Dick Daniels, W4PUJ; Bill Tynan, W3XO; Robin Haighton, VE3FRH; and Barry Baines, WD4ASW. Mike Gilchrist, KF4FDJ, will serve as the alternate until the next election.

* 9M2MAZ named UN Director for Outer Space Affairs: Mazian Othman, 9M2MAZ, of Malaysia, has been appointed United Nations Director for Outer Space Affairs. The position is a two-year appointment based in Vienna, Austria. Othman is the first woman from a developing country to be appointed to the post, which oversees UN space activities.

* Hiram L. "Hi" Kennicott, W9RBD, SK: Hiram L. "Hi" Kennicott, W9RBD, of Highland Park, Illinois died in late August. He was 82. An active ham since the mid-1930s, Kennicott was senior vice president of the Kemper Insurance Group before his retirement in 1979. A memorial service was August 28. Survivors include a son and a daughter: Memorial donations may be made to Trinity Episcopal Church, 425 Laurel Ave, Highland Park, Ill. 60035 or Hospice of Northeastern Illinois, 410 Hager Ave, Barrington, IL 60010.—thanks to John Rosich, K9UC

* Y2K preparedness net forms: Bill Schenker, KG4DHJ, in Alabama has announced formation of a nightly Y2K Net on or about 14.275 MHz at 8 PM Central Time. "We're going to focus on the nitty gritty of Y2K preparations in general," he says, adding that he hopes the effort will encourage the development of regional Y2K nets. For more information, contact Bill Schenker, KG4DHJ, wjs@linkfast.net.

* Handy beam headings from the Web: Sometimes it's difficult and time consuming to calculate beam headings when working stations in the Continental US and Caribbean. Mark Downing, WM7D, offers a service on his WM7D.net site at http://www.wm7d.net/azproj.shtml that, when you enter your coordinates, will draw a map centered on your QTH and superimpose a compass rose on it. Print the map on any printer—a color printer is best—and you're all set.

Do you have a nomination for FAR's Ham of the Month?

Any licensed amateur radio operator in the *Auto-Call* subscription area who has contributed significantly to the amateur community can be nominated. Provide a narrative of 250 to 500 words describing the contributions of the nominee and forward to the FAR Ham of the the Month nomination chairman, Tony Young, WA3YLO, at 12016 Long Ridge Lane, Bowie, MD 20715.

Rules and Regs

By Jack Kelleher
W4ZC

ULS VANITY PROCESSING INCHES FORWARD (ARRL Ltr v18 #35, 9/3/99)

The FCC's new Universal Licensing System has moved a bit closer to resuming full-scale amateur vanity call sign processing.

Several lucky applicants who had submitted call sign requests in the pre-ULSera benefited in recent days from some "live" testing of the ULS vanity processing system. A few not-so-lucky applicants learned this week, however, that the FCC had to rescind some of those vanity grants it cranked out—and should not have—during those "test runs."

Until last week, no vanity call signs had been granted since August 4. The ULS has been accepting vanity applications since it inaugurated the ULS for the Amateur Service August 16, however.

Some 30 vanity call sign applications dating from July were processed September 16. The FCC ran a batch of another 50 or so vanity applications September 21. "We're taking it slow," a ULS spokesperson said.

But while reviewing the vanity applications processed, FCC personnel found some that should not have been granted in the first place, because the applicants made various fatal errors in the application process. The FCC says those call signs will be canceled and the applications dismissed.

"And there will be plenty more, I'm sure," the spokesperson said, anticipating additional dismissals down the road. The FCC has the option of rescinding any grant within 30 days.

Barring any unforeseen major problems, the FCC anticipates additional "live test" runs before resuming full-scale vanity processing, possibly by month's end. Once that happens, vanity call sign processing will occur every day for eligible applications based on date of receipt.

Gone under ULS are weekly processing runs and the dreaded work-in-process—or WIPs—stack of applications that were kicked out of the former automated system and designated for manual processing. Under the ULS, applications that would have gotten an additional manual review in the past now will be automatically dismissed and returned to the applicant for correction and refiling.

Vanity applications not accompanied by payments within the 10-day deadline will be dismissed automatically. The ULS now permits applicants to make credit card payments on-line. The fee for a vanity call sign application increased to $14 on September 14.

In the wake of comments and criticisms about the difficulty of having to configure a dial-up connection with a particular browser (Netscape version4.5 or higher, and version 4.61 preferred) to file an application, the ULS Task Force says it's planning to convert to electronic filing via the Internet. But a spokesperson says that is not likely to happen for another six to nine months. In the meantime, some have opted to file a paper Form605 instead. ARRL Ltr V18, #38, 9/24/99

Continued next page

FCC DISMISSES FOUR APPLICATIONS AS EXAM AUDIT CONTINUES (ARRL Ltr v18 #38, 9/24/99)

The FCC has dismissed four Amateur Radio applications resulting from an examination session in Yonkers, New York, last spring, but its investigation continues.

FCC Legal Adviser for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth wrote the four applicants two months ago seeking answers to specific questions about the May 2, 1999, session conducted by Metro 70 cm Network Amateur Radio Club Volunteer Examiners under the ARRL-VEC. All four were warned that failure to provide the requested information would lead to dismissal of their applications. On September 9, Hollingsworth wrote the same four applicants to dismiss their pending applications.

Dismissed were an Amateur Extra upgrade application from Keith Murphy,KB2YOI, of Spring Valley, New York; a Tech Plus upgrade application from Keith Jones, KC2EDT, of Brooklyn, New York; an Advanced upgrade application from Winston A. Tulloch, KC2ALN, of Paterson, New Jersey; and an application for a Technician license from Claudies Anderson of Detroit, Michigan.

The FCC says Murphy, Jones, and Tulloch failed to respond to the initial inquiry, while Anderson told the FCC that the test papers the FCC questioned him about were not the ones he'd turned in at the exam session.

All four applicants were advised September 9 that "the issues surrounding the examination session" will have to be resolved before the FCC entertains another Amateur Radio application from any of them.

Hollingsworth told the ARRL that the next step in the investigation would be to contact the Volunteer Examiners at the session.

In its initial inquiries to Murphy, Tulloch, and Anderson, the FCC questioned the appearance of blue markings next to most answers and asked which marks the applicants had placed on the answer sheets and if any marks were already on the sheet when it was handed out. The FCC similarly queried Jones about his Morse code answer sheet, asking if it was the only one he'd filled out on May 2 and if any of the answers were modified after he'd turned in the sheet; the others who took code tests were asked if they had written down any of their copy, and, if so, what they did with those notes.

Anderson also was asked if he was actually present at the test session and if he'd had access to an answer template before or during the test session. All four applicants also were asked to name the Volunteer Examiners who handed out their paperwork and to whom they gave their completed answer sheets, as well as any discussions they might have had with the examiners.

LEAGUE OPPOSES LA COUNTY EXPERIMENTAL VIDEO PROPOSAL (ARRL Ltr v18, #38, 9-24-99)

The ARRL has asked the FCC to deny an experimental license application by Los Angeles County, California, to develop a public safety video system on the 2.4 GHz band. The LA County proposal, filed August 9, seeks FCC authorization to develop an experimental system using four 10-MHz channels to transmit video images from helicopter-borne cameras to five remote receiving sites with active tracking antennas. The signals then would be retransmitted via terrestrial links to the public safety agencies involved.

In its objection, filed September 23 with the FCC, the League called the LA County proposal a "foot in the door" toward gaining a permanent berth in the2.4 GHz band. "It is obvious from the experimental proposal that the County wishes to construct the entire system and then simply stay

Continued next page

there," the League said. The ARRL said the FCC should authorize nothing more than a single 10-MHz video channel for a single transmitter aboard a single helicopter, to allow interference studies to be conducted.

LA County already is licensed for video operations on a single 2.4 GHz channel but says it encounters operational conflicts with broadcasters. The proposal targets the 2402-2448 MHz band, characterizing it as "underutilized" and asserting that current occupants—including Amateur Radio and industrial, scientific and medical instrumentation—would not suffer harmful interference. Amateurs have a primary domestic allocation at2402-2417 MHz.

The League's objection said LA County's 2.4 GHz monitoring study was" significantly flawed" and "woefully insufficient," and that LA County would be unable to avoid causing "constant, harmful interference" to incumbent users. Citing ATV repeaters and video links as well as proposed amateur satellite operation, the League said, the 2.4 GHz band enjoys significant use by the LA area Amateur Radio community. The League said these systems, and those of other amateur users, would be "seriously degraded or displaced" by deployment of the proposed experimental system.

The decision to grant the proposed experimental license is up to the FCC Office of Engineering and Technology's Experimental Licensing Division. In making its decision, however, the OET is expected to consult with the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, which oversees Amateur Radio and the other affected services on 2.4 GHz.

In a separate, but related, filing on September 1, Los Angeles County and the cities of Los Angeles, Long Beach and Burbank requested a declaratory ruling from the FCC to "clarify its rules to facilitate public safety operations on the 2450-2483 MHz band" and to explore other spectrum allocations "to accommodate the growing demand for public safety airborne operation."

FCC SETS SIGHTS ON BEEFED-UP 10-METER ENFORCEMENT (ARRL Ltr v38, #37, Sep. 17, 1999)

The FCC's Legal Adviser for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth says hams can expect more rigorous enforcement on 10 meter issues next year. Over the Labor Day weekend, Hollingsworth told visitors to the Shelby Hamfest in North Carolina that the next area of enforcement would be the encroachment of unlicensed individuals into the 10-meter band and a crackdown on illegal RF amplifiers. His announcement drew loud applause from the Shelby crowd. Hollingsworth elaborated on the comments this week in an interview concerning this and other enforcement issues.

"We're coming on to ten months of rejuvenated amateur enforcement now, and two issues are clear—two areas we need to really crank up on next year, "Hollingsworth said. "One is the incursion into 10 meters by unlicensed operators—CBers and so forth. The other is sales of illegal equipment on the Internet and at hamfests."

At Shelby, Hollingsworth told the crowd that he'd spotted more illegal equipment at Shelby that he'd seen last May at the Dayton Hamvention. At the Hamvention, FCC Field Office personnel from Detroit warned several vendors about potential violations involving RF amplifiers.

The Shelby Hamfest, held at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds, is best known for is flea market, not for its forums, but Hollingsworth still managed to draw a standing-room-only crowd for his Sunday morning presentation. After addressing the overflow forum audience, Shelby Hamfest organizers hastily scheduled a second forum and rearranged the room to gain more seating. Hollingsworth was scheduled to appear at the Virginia State Convention in Virginia Beach September 18-19.

Hollingsworth says his recent enforcement

Continued on page 12

FAR Meeting Minutes

September 8, 1999
Alexandria, VA

FAR Executive Vice-president, Al Brown (KZ3AB) called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. at Lee Center in Alexandria, Virginia.

The attendees introduced themselves. There were 20 trustees in attendance representing 21 member organizations. They were:

Don Kirby KR3A Calvert County ARC
Tim Titus W1TRT CARA
Hugh Katz KB3TB Voice of America ARC
Phil Clark KF4NBP Fauquier ARA
Marcia Miller KD4ITP Dulles ARG
John Swafford N4HU QCWA Chapter #91
Jim Rose N3FEW Southern Maryland ARC
W. Page Pyne WA3EOP Antietam RA/ Cheese Hollow ARS
Ruth Frock KU4WH Ole VA Hams
Tony Young WA3YLO Anne Arundel RC/MEPN
E. Allen Brown KZ3AB Antietam RA/ Maryland Emergency Phone Net
John Kilm N3KHK Silver Spring Metro Center ARC
Jerry Stackle AI0K Montgomery ARC
Mildred Mumford N3KGQ Frederick ARC
Ed Mumford N3IRO Frederick ARC
Tom Freeland W8GSN Opequan Radio Society
Ed Pine KA8YLE Opequan Radio Society
Dick Daniels W4PUJ AMSAT
Ruth Phillips K3AGR NRL ARC/ Metrovision ATV
Alan Bosch KO4ALA Vienna Wireless society /NCAC

* Secretary s Report - The August minutes were approved with one change: FARFest will be on September 26 and not August 26.

* Treasurer s Report - Tim Titus(W1TRT) presented the current balance sheet and figures, they were accepted.

* Auto-Call - John Swafford(W4HU) had nothing new to report.

* Survivor's Assistance - Tony Young (WA3YLO) reported that just recently picked up over 100 items from a widows basement. Tony will have all items that are available at FARFest. If you are looking for anything, Tony can be contacted at TonnyY@Juno.com and John can be reached at W4HU@Juno.com.

* Scholarship Committee - Hugh Turnbull (W3ABC) was not in attendance.

* ARRL Report - Hugh Turnbull (W3ABC) was not in attendance.

* FARfest - Al Brown (KZ3AB) reported that things are moving quite well. Tony Young(WA3YLO) is scheduled to meet with the stadium authority on Friday September 10. Tony is still requesting volunteers to help with setup from noon until dusk on Saturday September 26, and for gate help from approximately 0600-1400 on Sunday September 27. The next FARFest meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 15 at 1900, at the home of Al Brown(KZ3AB).

*Old Business

A discussion of free ads for subscribers of Auto-Call was revived from last month. Tony Young(WA3YLO) will discuss the subject with John Queen(Auto-Call Editor) and a flier posted at FARFest stating how this will work.

Sales Tax Issues - Tim Titus(W1TRT) gave a preliminary report. Chris Imlay and Hugh Turnbull have discussed the matter, more to come.

* New Business

MDC QSO Party - Page Pyne(WA3EOP)

Continued next page

Rules and Regs, from page 10

initiative aimed at call sign hoarders has met with some success. "I appreciate the people who have come in on their own and either turned in or trimmed down the number of club callsigns that they had," he said this week. During a two-week period in late August, Hollingsworth said 43 call signs voluntarily were turned back to the FCC without any prompting.

Hollingsworth says he's received replies from all of the letters the FCC has sent to multiple call sign holders, including members of the Tucker family in La Mirada, California. On June 30, the FCC requested that family patriarch Roy T. Tucker, N6TK, and other licensees in the Tucker family provide justification in writing for the two dozen or so club call signs held by various family members.

"I have about a half a dozen cases in the hopper," Hollingsworth said of the call sign inquiries initiative, but added that he's deferring judgment on whether the message has gotten across to the amateur community. "I would like to think so," he said, "but I won't know until I've seen these responses." His stack includes replies from the Tucker family, who have hired an attorney to handle the FCC inquiry.

Hollingsworth says he's optimistic that an anticipated FCC internal reorganization that will create a new Enforcement Bureau will occur no later than the end of the year but could be as early as October 1—the start of the new federal fiscal year. Hollingsworth has assured that the change will have no effect on Amateur Radio enforcement efforts.—John Kanode, N4MM,provided some information for this report

Spectrum bill tops 100 cosponsors: ARRL Legislative and Public Affairs Manager Steve Mansfield, N1MZA, reports that more than 100 Members of Congress have agreed to be cosponsors for HR-783, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act. Four more signed aboard following the August recess, raising the total number of cosponsors to 106.

FAR Minutes, from page 11

announced the club winners from the event:

1st - Laurel amateur Radio Club
2nd - VOA
3rd - Maryland Mobileers

* Announcements:

HEMARC Novice/Technician training class - Changed from September 28 to October 5

FARFest September 26

CARA Hamfest October 10

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M. The next meeting will be held at Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, MD on Wednesday, October 13. See Auto-Call magazine for directions.

My thanks to Hugh Katz(KB3TB for taking the minutes in my absence. Respectfully submitted,

Daniel C. Blasberg Jr.
KA8YPY
FAR Recording Secretary

Foundation For Amateur Radio
1999 Scholarship Award Winners

The Foundation for Amateur Radio is pleased to announce the winners of 67 scholarships awarded for 1999. There were winners from 22 states. Some of the scholarships were funded directly by the Foundation for Amateur Radio or by its member clubs and grants. Other scholarships were funded by various organizations or individuals and administered by the Foundation without cost.

Jessica R. Asbill, KC7YET- Dairy, OR
QCWA Memorial Scholarship - $1000

Jessica comes from a family where her father, mother and one brother are all licensed. She has been accepted at Northwest College in Kirkland, WA where she plans to major in Ecointensive Biology. As a life's work she hopes to teach in third world countries showing which crops to grow that will yield the largest possible harvest when utilizing small ground spaces.

April N. Bonderud, N1XRI - Monmouth, ME
QCWA Memorial Scholarship - $1000

April will be seeking a B.S. degree in Accounting Information Systems from Bentley College at Waltham, MA. She looks toward being an important part of a support team which appreciates each other's efforts. She is an active member of the Augusta (ME) Amateur Radio Club and enjoys participating in its public service efforts.

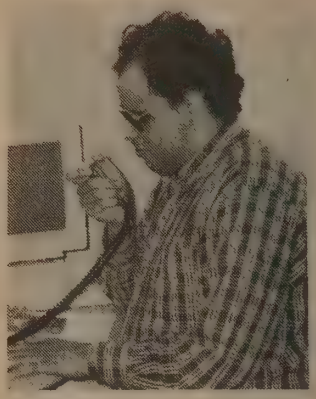
Sara M. Crabtree, N8VRD - Kettering, OH
QCWA Memorial Scholarship - $1000

Sara plans to major in Communications at Ohio Northern University in Ada, OH. 'She is interested in or ganizing and publicizing important information. Ultimately she would like to be recognized as a reliable source for information with a further degree in Public Relations. She comes from an all-ham family and is a member of several radio clubs. She has maintained a Weighted 3.9 GPA while taking honors English, math, science and history classes.

Bobby J. Gass, KB4UG - Greenville, TN
QCWA Memorial Scholarship - $1000

Bobby holds an Advanced Class License and is determined to make a career change. He will be seeking a B.S. degree in elementary education and proposes to use it to teach middle school science and math classes. His other activities include being an assistant Scout Cubmaster and being the Communications Officer for the United Volunteer Fire Department.

Marco M. Midon, N5ACR- Miami, FL
QCWA Memorial Scholarship - $1000

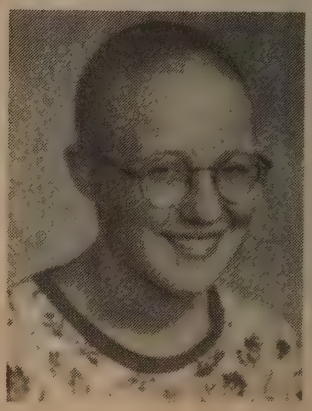


Marco is a blind graduate student who is serving in the coop program at the Goddard Space Flight Center, He is scheduled to receive his Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering next year from the Florida International University in Miami.. He has been a ham since age 11 and holds a General Class License. He is a member of the Goddard Radio Club and is active on all bands.

Rebecca S. Polewczak, W2LPW - Gansevoort, NY
QCWA Memorial Scholarship - $1000

Rebecca will be starting her freshman year at Clarkson University majoring in Chemistry. She holds a Technician Plus license and has been an active member of the Saratoga County (NY) RACES since 1989. She logs several hours each month using ham radio at community service events. Her career goal is to work in research or development at an industrial or medical level.

Rebecca C. Sakarias, KL7RC - Juneau, AK
QCWA Memorial Scholarship - $1000



Rebecca is the Foundation's first award recipient from Alaska and plans to major in Physics at Southern Oregon University in Ashland eventually seeking a PhD. Her objective is to be a problem solver. She holds an Extra Class license and is an active member of the Juneau Amateur Radio Club.

Michelle R. Sciarini, KB8ILX - Dover, OH
QCWA Memorial Scholarship - $1000

Michelle has been an FAR scholarship winner for the past two years. She will be a junior at the University of Akron where she is majoring in Mathematics. She would eventually like to obtain her PhD and teach math at the college level. She comes from an all ham family and holds a General Class license.

Wendy Joy Silverman, KC4ZQW - Spring Hill, FL
QCWA Memorial Scholarship - $1000

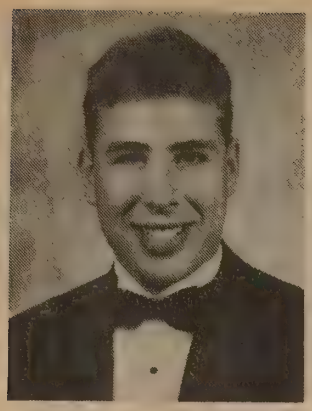
Wendy has twice been a previous winner of an FAR administered scholarship. Next year she is scheduled to receive her BA degree in Molecular Biology and her BS degree in Chemistry and then go on to Medical school. As a life work, she would like to work with the Human Genome Project or specialize in surgery. She holds a General Class license and enjoys operating on both the HF and VHF bands.

Philip M. Weaver, N3PDW
QCWA Memorial Scholarship - $1000

Philip has his sights set on receiving an Associate's Degree in Radiology Technology from Mansfield (PA) University. He chose this as a career after spending considerable time "shadowing" in two hospitals. He holds a General Class license and is a member of the Tioga County ARC.

John L. Walker, N4DMR- Cullman, AL
QCWA Ralph Hasslinger Charter Member Scholarship - $1000

John plans to major in Chemical Engineering at the University of Alabama. He would like to use and above all enjoy his training to study and develop pharmaceuticals He comes from an all ham family and holds a Tech Plus license. While in high school he was a band section leader and layout editor for his school's newspaper.



Dean E. Merritt, N3PTD - Hunt Valley, MD
Max Jacobsen - John Kelleher Family Scholarship $1000

Dean plans to seek a BS degree in Psychology with a minor in Business at Villanova University. His high school had as its goal " Men for Others" His resume clearly indicates his continued commitment to serve others. His father and mother are both licensed and he is an active member in both of Baltimore's major radio clubs.

Michelle G. Pettus, KC4FBE- Lineville, AL
Donald & Phyllis Doughty Family Scholarship - $1000

Michelle is one of our previous winners and will be a senior at Auburn University where she is majoring in Heath Promotion and Sports Management. She plans to continue with graduate work to obtain a Master's degree in Physical Therapy. Her intention is to become a physical therapist working with the elderly. Working with them has made her aware of their environment of hopelessness, loneliness and helplessness. She is anxious to make a difference in their lives. She holds a Technician Plus license and is a member of the Calhoun County ARA.

Stephen P. Margrave, N7ANT - Vienna, VA
QCWA Travis Baird (W9VQD) Memorial Scholarship $750

Stephen plans to pursue a double major toward two Associate degrees. one in Information Systems and the other in Electronics Technology from the Northern Virginia Community College in Annanadale, VA. He holds an Extra Class license.

Matthew C. Wilson, KD4COA- Alexandria, VA
QCWA Leo Meyerson Family - Living Scholarship - $750

Matthew is still undecided on his major although he plans to seek a BA degree from James Madison University at Harrisonburg, VA. He wants to make a choice that will provide happiness and satisfaction. As an extension of school, he has attended the University of Virginia's Summer Enrichment program and has been a Counselor-in- Training at the University Maryland serving as a guide for Japanese exchange students. He is involved in both church and community activities.

Jo Ann Simpson, KA3WPD - Temple Hills, MD
FAR Silent Key Memorial Scholarship - $1000 Sponsored by the Blue RidgeRunners Net in Memory of Forrest Akers, W3PT

Jo Ann will be a sophomore at Frostburg State University where she plans to major in Political Science. She has been licensed since she was ten years old and now holds a General Class ticket. She enjoys helping others whether by being a Red Cross assistant or helping younger children with their homework.

Ryan M. Stavely, KB3DGF - Monrovia, MD
FAR Silent Key Memorial Scholarship - $1000 Sponsored by George Redington in Memory of his Father

Ryan has completed his first year at Virginia Tech pursuing a bachelor's degree in Management Science and Information Technology. His primary goal is to obtain a college education and obtain a Naval commission as a surface warfare officer. He holds a Technician Class license and is the president of the Virginia Tech Amateur Radio Association.

Gregory L. Lazzaro, N3VSL - Mount Airy, MD
FAR Silent Key Memorial Scholarship - $1000 Sponsored by the Foundation in Memory of Henry deCourt, W3WZN

Greg will be starting his freshman year at the University of Maryland in Baltimore majoring in Vocal Music Performance. His interest in ham radio began when he was in the fifth grade. His mother, father and two brothers are all licensed. He holds a Technician Plus license and enjoys chasing 10 meter DX plus participating in various Public Service events.

Tara L. Sheedy, KC2DIN - Castleton, NY
FAR Silent Key Memorial Scholarship - $1000 Sponsored by Charles Stay, W4HE, in Memory of William D. Hudgins, W4YY

Tara will be a junior majoring in Biology at Clarkson University. She is the current secretary of the Clarkson Amateur Radio Club. Primarily she enjoys two meter operation by participating in Public Service events. She was introduced to ham radio by a friend and looks forward to upgrading.

Carolyn M. Creel, N3UXZ - Silver Spring, MD
FAR Silent Key Memorial Scholarship - $1000 Sponsored by Charles Stay, W4HE, In Memory of Ethel Smith, K4LMB

Carolyn is a previous winner and will be entering her Junior year at the University of Maryland where she is majoring in Criminal Justice. Everyone in her immediate family (including her grandmother) is licensed and she helps to support her father's repeater operation and the various programs of the Laurel Amateur Radio Club.

James E. Catalano, KC4SZT - Woodbridge, VA
FAR Silent Key Memorial Scholarship - $1000 Sponsored by Charles Stay, W4HE, In Memory of Charles Baldwin, W4JAZ

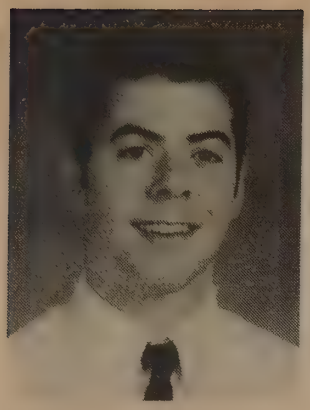
James will be beginning his sophomore year at West Virginia University where he is pursuing courses in business and marketing. He was first licensed in 1990 as a Novice at the age of ten and later upgraded to Tech Plus. He continues his membership with the Woodbridge Wireless Club and participated in its Field Day operations earlier this year. He hopes to reactivate the amateur radio club at West Virginia University. Q Throughout high school he was a member of the marching band. Last year he was one of the QCWA scholarship winners.

Joel P. Booth, AF4LW - Warrior, AL
Radio Club of America Scholarship From the Richard Somers Fund - $1000

Joel is a 25 year old student at Wallace State University in Hanceville, AL who plans to transfer to the University of Alabama in Huntsville to pursue a Bachelors degree in Electrical Engineering. He is an Extra Class operator and an active member of the Blount County Amateur Radio Club. He enjoys being a member of it VE team and is actively working toward his DXCC and WAS as a second priority to his studies. Eventually he hopes to work in the development of new Amateur Radio communication equipment.

John M. Steenis, KI7LX - Phoenix, AZ
Radio Club of America Scholarship From the Poppele Fund - $1000

John holds an Extra Class license and has participated in many facets of Amateur Radio. As a result of these activities, he has gained invaluable experience, made many friendships and introduced many people to the hobby. He holds an Extra Class license and is an Electrical Engineering major at Purdue.

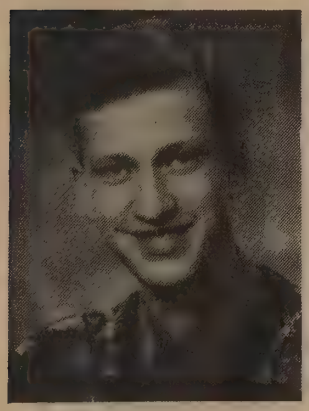


Michael P. Taraborrelli, N3MT - Philadelphia, PA
Radio Club of America Scholarship
From the J. Alan Biggs Fund - $1000

Michael is a graduate of the Phil-Mont Christian Academy and will be starting his freshman year at Villanova University pursuing courses in Electrical Engineering. He is a member of the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club and participates in its various Public service activities. He serves as a volunteer operator at the Franklin Museum's amateur radio exhibit station. His other interests are participatory sports, gymnastics, gymnastics, church activities, fishing, boating and reading.

Andrew L. Warnock, KC8IFR - Columbus, OH
Radio Club of America Scholarship
From the Leo Meyerson Fund - $1000

Over a two year period, Andrew went from Novice to Extra Class because of the added privileges available to higher grade licensees. Along the way his parents shared his interests and became licensed. He plans to study computer engineering at Ohio State University. Currently he operates both CW and voice on the HF bands and 2 meter FM. He recently joined a SkyWarn storm spotting organization.



Scott A. Zastoupil, KB0KFX - Williston, ND
Radio Club of America Scholarship-
In Memory of Stuart Meyer, W2GHK - $1000

Scott will be a junior at North Dakota State University majoring in Electrical Engineering. He holds an Extra Class license and recently became a Volunteer Examiner. He mostly operates on HF phone and the local repeaters. His other hobbies include fishing, Internet and golfing. He was a previous winner of QCWA and Radio Club of America scholarships.

Julie M. Berger, KB0FDN - House Springs, MO
10-10 International Net Scholarship - $1000

Julie holds a Technician Plus license and comes from an all ham family. She graduated Summa Cum Laude with Distinction from Southwest Missouri University with a degree in Unified Science. She is certified to teach physics, chemistry and biology at the high school level. This fall, she will be attending Columbia University pursuing a doctorate in educational administration.

Blair T. Harness, KB0ROM - Boulder, CO
10-10 International Net Scholarship - $1000

Blair Harness plans to study Electrical Engineering at the University of Colorado in Boulder. He holds a Technician Plus license and is active on 2, 10 and 40 meters. He is an Eagle Scout and a member of the National Honor Society. He is a member of the Junior Boulder Amateur Radio Club and participated in the Youth in Amateur Radio Forum at Dayton in 1998 covering his Field Day activities. He hopes eventually to work in the aerospace industry.

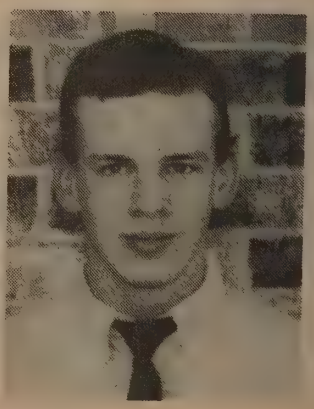
Mark A. Pettus, KE4ESF - Lineville, AL
10-10 International Net Scholarship - $1000

Mark Pettus has been very involved in extra-curricular and community activities. Both his mother and father and one brother are licensed. He holds a Technician Plus license and will be a freshman at the University of Alabama majoring in sports management and pre-physical therapy. Ultimately he hopes to become a physical therapist specializing in sports injuries.

Emily A. Sherk, KB0KSW - New Hope, MN
10-10 International Net Scholarship - $1000

Emily Sherk has completed two years at Bethel College in Arden, MN and expects to graduate in 2001 with a BA in Social Work. She has been a volunteer at the Methodist Hospital in St. Louis Park, MN in excess if 100 hours annually. She holds a Technician Plus license and operates mostly on ten meter single sideband.

Kyle E. Britain, KB5UBE - Grand Prairie, TX
Richard G. Chichester Memorial Scholarship - $1000
Sponsored by Patricia and Jack (W9AMF) Chichester



Kyle has an Advanced Class license and will be a sophomore studying Electrical Engineering at the University of Texas at Arlington. His father and sister are both licensed hams. His record shows excellent grades and having part-time jobs. He is an Eagle Scout and was a winner last year of one of the Radio Club of America awards.

April D. Rodgers, N3PPU - Butler, PA
Young Ladies' Radio League Scholarship - $1500

April graduated Cum Laude from the University of Pittsburgh in 1996 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Microbiology. While there she served for three years as the President of the Panther Radio Club. She will now be in her final year of Optometry School at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry (PCO) rotating thru various places for three months seeing patients in different environments such as hospitals, ocular disease clinics and private practices. She holds an Advanced Class license and serves as a Volunteer Examiner.

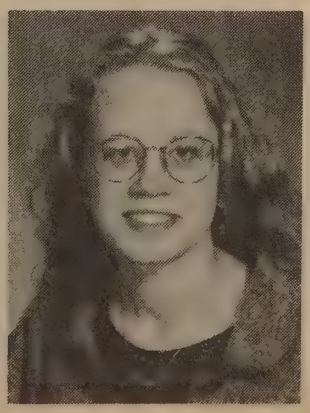
Andrew M. Roberts, W3KN - Davidsonville, MD
Columbia Amateur Radio Association Scholarship - $1000

Andy was first licensed in 1993 and is an active member of both the Potomac Valley Radio Club and the Embry-Riddle ARA where he goes to college. He is studying Computer Science at Embry-Riddle and was last year's winner of the Free State ARC award. Both his father and mother are licensed. When time permits, he is an active DXer and Contester.

Franklin L. Wright, N3OQB - Silver Spring, MD
Baltimore Amateur Radio Club Scholarship - $1000

Franklin has finished his third year as a biochemistry major at Harvard University. In his free time he works in a molecular biology laboratory at the Harvard Medical School and serves as a director of a student-run homeless shelter in Cambridge. This past year he has served as the president of the Harvard Wireless Club (W1AF) which celebrated its 90th anniversary.

Aileen K. Hudspeth, N3YAC - Woodbine, MD
Baltimore Amateur Radio Club Scholarship - $1000

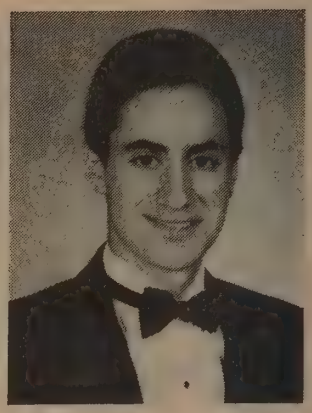


Aileen is scheduled to be a junior at Radford University pursuing a degree in Music Therapy. In addition to her participation in the Music Therapy Club and Radford Role Players Guild, she was a News writer and Police Beat correspondent for the student published newspaper. She also serves as a computer technician for all-female residence hall assisting residents in connecting to the dorm's Ethernet.

Edward M. Cabic, N3IHX - Columbia, MD
Baltimore Amateur Radio Club Scholarship - $1000

Ed will be in his sophomore year Cornell University continuing his studies in the field of Electrical Engineering. Outside of his academic life, he works a weekly shift as a DJ at a local FM station specializing in rock music.

Scott M. Lazzaro, N3MWX - Mount Airy, MD
Baltimore Amateur Radio Club Scholarship - $1000



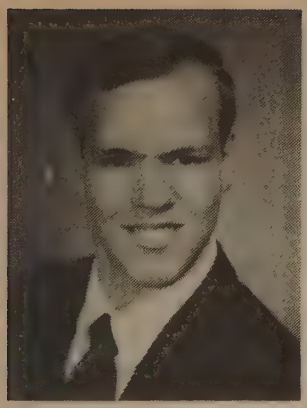
Scott's amateur radio career began at the age of nine when he passed his Novice test. Later that year he passed his Technician test and soon began enjoying DX operation on 10 Meters. He also operates on 2 Meters serving the community. He is a certified NOAA Skywarn Spotter with special training for Tornadoes, Hurricanes and Winter Storms. This fall he will be studying Environmental Science and Policy at the University of Maryland in College Park.

Kristin J. Pilotte, N3ZDF - Columbia, MD
Baltimore Amateur Radio Club Scholarship
Ernie Dobos Memorial Scholarship - $1500

Kristin is the fourth recipient of the Ernie Dobos Memorial Scholarship. She will be in her Junior year studying Physics at the University of Maryland in College Park. She holds a Technician Class license. Normally the Ernie Dobos Award is given to a Baltimore City resident whenever there is a qualified candidate meeting that residency requirement.

Laurence G. Magone, KB7QPS - Whitefish, MT
Ralph V. Anderson (K0NL) Memorial Scholarship - $1000

"Greg" has completed his first year at the University of Montana State University where he is pursuing courses leading to a BS in Mechanical Engineering. He holds a General Class Ticket and operates on both HF and VHF. Since he lives in Western Montana, he cannot help but enjoy the myriad of outdoor activities that the area has to offer.



Mark D. Henry, KE4UFT - Rotonda West, FL
Dade Radio Club Tropical Hamboree Scholarship -$1000

Mark holds a Technician Plus license and will be attending the University of Central Florida in Orlando pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Engineering. He eventually hopes to work for NASA or AT&T. He is a member of the Englewood Radio Club and has assisted with Ham Comm. His father and two brothers are also licensed.

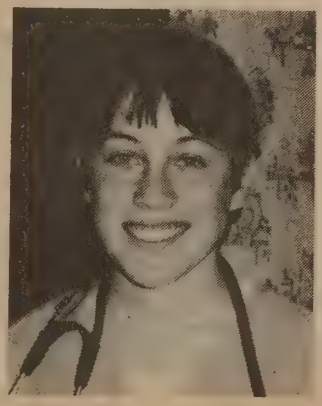
Alan T. Ott, KE4OZI - Inverness, FL
Dade Radio Club Tropical Hamboree Scholarship -$1000

Alan has been accepted at the University of Central Florida where he plans to pursue the courses leading to degree in Computer Science. He holds a Technician Class license; his brother, father and mother are also licensed. He has well above average SAT scores and was highly recommended by his references. He is an Eagle Scout and participates in the musical activities at his church.

Richard Buongiovanni, N9SP - Manassas, VA
Vienna Wireless Society Memorial Scholarship
In Memory of Victor C. Clark - $1000

Richard holds an Extra Class License and plans to complete his BS in Business Management at the University of Utah in December 2000. He is active on all bands and enjoys the new digital modes. He indicates Virginia as his legal residence. He speaks fluent Italian and is very active in his church.

Melody L. Siff, KE4ACK - Chesapeake, VA
Vienna Wireless Society Memorial Scholarship
In Memory of Paul E. Wilkins - $1000



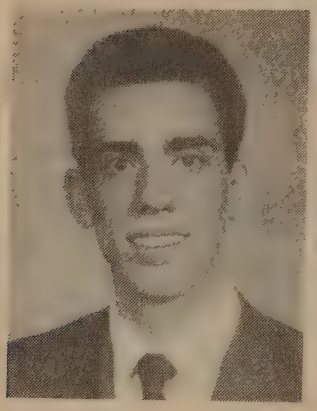
Melody holds an Extra Class license and will be a junior majoring in Biochemistry and Pre-Med at Old Dominion University. She graduated in the upper 10% of her High School Class and is active in both extra-curricular and community activities. She is an Emergency Room volunteer at Norfolk General Hospital and hopes eventually to become an emergency room physician and trauma surgeon. She is a member of the very successful Virginia Beach Youth Group and has served as its secretary. She is also a member of the Chesapeake Amateur Radio Club.

Paige E. Forrest, KE3UB - Towson, MD
Rose Ellen Bills Memorial Scholarship - $2000

Paige will be a senior at St. John's College in Annapolis, MD, where she is majoring in Philosophy in their Great Books Program. She plans on entering medical school after graduation. She has been licensed since 1994 and holds an Advanced Class Ticket. She especially enjoys QRP CW because it allows her to operate from her dormitory room.

Janice C. Rock, AF4LT - Warrior, AL
Rose Ellen Bills Memorial Scholarship - $2000

In the Fall of 1999, Janice will be transferring to the University of Alabama in Huntsville to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering with hopes of continuing toward a Master's degree in Atmospheric Sciences. As an Extra Class operator, she enjoys chasing DX and participates in Skywarn/ RACES operations. She is a member of the Blount County Amateur Radio Club and a member of its VE Team.



Robert F. Gage, N3VGQ - Frederick, MD
Frederick Amateur Radio Club Scholarship - $1000

Robert will be in his final year at World College/Cleveland Institute of Electronics where he expects to receive a Bachelor of Electronic Engineering Technology degree. He holds a Technician Class license, is a member of the Frederick Amateur Radio Club and is active in area Public Service events.

Krista D. Birmingham, KB2MER - Ridgewood, NJ
Kevin Barry Perdue Memorial Scholarship - $2000
Sponsored by Kay(WT3P) and Carter (N3AO) Craigie

Krista will be starting her freshman at the Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ majoring in Music Education. Besides being an accomplished musician, she is an active ham radio operator with an very impressive record of extra-curricular and community involvement.

Phillip A. Bogacki, KB9KEE - Milwaukee, WI
West Allis Radio Amateur Club Memorial Scholarship - $1000

Phillip will be attending Marquette University this fall where his intended major is accounting with a minor in a communications-related area. He is active in the ARES and Skywarn disaster services. He holds a General Class license and operates on 2 meter and 440Mhz. FM.. His resume indicates several areas of extra-curricular activity.

Christopher D. Molek, KB9GTK - Richland Center, WI
West Allis Radio Amateur Club Memorial Scholarship - $1000

Christopher is pursuing a double major in Chemistry Mathematics at the University of Wisconsin in La Crosse. He has continued to do well in school and has been on the Dean's list for three semesters. During the summers, he has had several jobs to assist in defraying the costs of his education. Chris has twice been a winner of awards administered by the Foundation. He holds a General Class license and active on all bands. He plans to continue on to medical school and specialize in anesthesiology.

Jeffrey D. Koch, N9XMM - Wisconsin Rapids, WI
South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Scholarship - $500

Jeffrey holds a Technician license and besides being an Eagle Scout has been active in numerous activities while attending high school.. He plans to study Bio-Medical Engineering at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and eventually become a medical doctor. His major operating activity is on two meters.

Michael R. Placek, KB9SCH - Oak Creek, WI
South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Scholarship - $500

Michael plans to seek a degree in Electrical Engineering Technology from the Milwaukee School of Engineering where he has completed his first year. He holds a General Class license and is active on 40 meter phone and CW. in addition to 2 meter FM. He works at two jobs to support his education his references recommend him highly. Other activities include biking, computers, basketball and audio/visual work at his church.

Jamisen R. Ruekert, N9XRC - New Berlin, WI
South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Scholarship - $500

Jamisen plans to study biomedical engineering at Marquette University. Her SAT Verbal and Math scores were 770 an d 790. She hopes to become a physician She holds a Tech Plus license and is active on two meter FM. Her other activities include being a member of the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra, the track and cross-country team and several school activities.

Joseph A. Streeter, AA9TV - Fond do Lac, WI
South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Scholarship - $500

Joseph expects to receive his degree in Electronic Engineering from the Herzig College of Technology in Madison where he has already completed his first year. He has an Extra Class license and was selected to go to the UK this past summer as an exchange student. For the past 4 years he has served in the Wisconsin Army National Guard. He operates on all bands and especially enjoys chasing DX and using low power.

Michael M. Imrick, KB9LPJ - Mason, WI
Ozaukee Radio Club Scholarship - $1000

Michael became a Computer Science major at the Michigan Technological University at Houghton, MI. following his transfer from the Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College at New Richmond. He holds a Technician Plus license and is active on 2 meter FM. When he is at home, he continues to be involved with his church activities. His recent summer employment was as a Computer Technician for the NASA Facility at Wallops Island, VA.

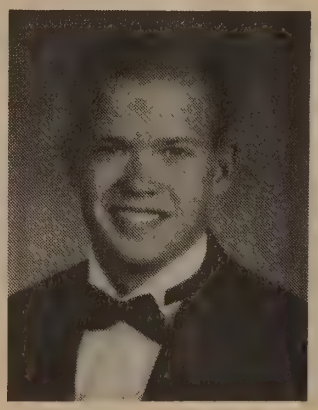
Matthew Ipock, KM4WZ - Chesapeake, VA
Virginia Beach Hamfest Scholarship - $1000

Matthew will be in his senior at Old Dominion where he is majoring in Creative Writing with a minor in Economics. He is scheduled to receive his BA degree in May of next year. This is the third year that he has received this award. Both his father and mother are licensed and he holds an Advanced Class license.

Jeremy Williams, KO4SJ - Virginia Beach, VA
Virginia Beach Hamfest Scholarship - $1000

Jeremy has been active in the Club's very successful Youth Group having held several of its elective positions. He will be starting his sophomore year at Old Dominion University where he hopes to obtain a Baccalaureate degree in Computer Science. Originally licensed at the age of 8, he now holds an Advanced Class License and is active on all of the ham bands.

Carson E. Wiedeman, K4KOE - Virginia Beach, VA
Virginia Beach Hamfest Scholarship - $1000



Carson holds a General Class license and will be starting his first year at The Massachusetts Maritime Academy on Cape Cod toward a BS degree in Marine Transportation. He is active on all bands and a member of the Virginia Beach ARC. His call was originally used by his grandfather who is now a Silent Key.

Victoria L. Crawford, N4XDR - Virginia Beach, VA
Nanticoke Amateur Radio Club Scholarship - $1000

Victoria comes from an all-ham family and holds a Technician Plus license. She has been very active in the Virginia Beach Amateur Radio Club's Youth Group and is currently seeking a degree in Pharmacy at Campbell University.

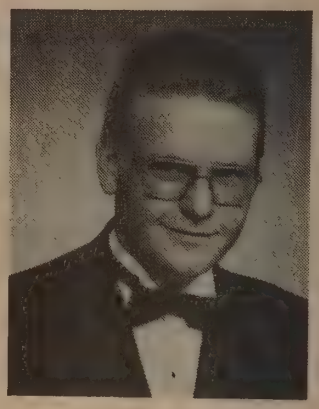
Andrew B. Borzok, N3TWK - Wellsboro, PA
Murgas Amateur Radio Club Scholarship - $500

Andrew will be starting his college career as a freshman at Elizabethtown College in Elizabethtown, PA. where he plans to pursue a double major in Engineering and Physics. He hopes eventually to enter the field of environmental engineering. He comes from an all ham family and has served as the vice president of the Tioga4-H Amateur Radio Club. He holds a Technician Plus license and enjoys operating in various public service activities. While attending high school, he was an active member of the tennis, dross-country and track teams.

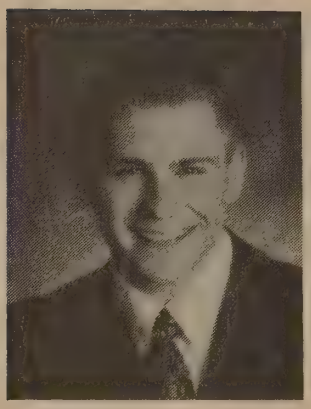
Michael S. Calhoon, N3SNI - Arnold, MD
Baltimore Radio TV Society Scholarship
In Memory of Ernest L. Walker, WB3DVL - $1000

Michael is a Computer Science major in the Scholars Program at the University of Maryland in College Park and scheduled to receive his degree ahead of schedule in August 2000. He is a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer and plans to work as a Network Engineer.

Robert E. Kelley, N3GC - Rock Hall, MD
Free State Amateur Radio Club Scholarship - $1000



He holds a Technician Plus license and will be attending the Delaware Technical Community College at Dover pursuing courses leading to an Associates Degree in Computer Engineering Technology. He is a member of the Kent County Radio Society and has served as its Field Day Coordinator.



Grant M. Stevens, KC8EKC - Beavercreek, OH
Robert E. True Memorial Scholarship
Sponsored by Mrs. Shirley True Banning - $1000

Grant will be a junior studying Electrical and Computer Engineering at Ohio State University in Columbus. Our checks with his neighborhood and character references were both positive and encouraging. He is currently the vice-president of the Amateur Radio Club at Ohio State.

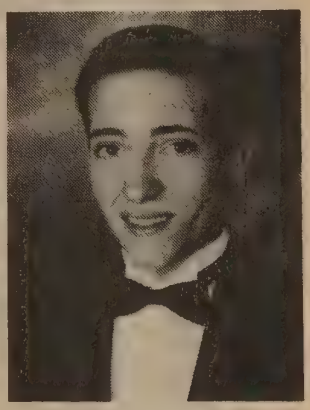
Zachary D. Sadecki, KB7FUV - Ashton, ID
Lawrence E. and Thelma J. Norrie Memorial Scholarship - $2500

Zachary's father inspired him to obtain his Novice ticket at age 11. By the time he had upgraded to the Advanced Class, he knew he wanted to become an Electrical Engineer. When he completes his final year of undergraduate school, he will be graduating with 2 Bachelor of Science degrees - one in Electrical Engineering with an electromagnetics emphasis and the other in Computer Engineering.

Christie L. Berger, N0YVV - House Springs, MO
Old Old Timer's Club Scholarship - $600

Christie has completed one year with a 4.0 GPA working toward a B.S. in Music Education at Southwest Missouri State University. She holds a Technician Class license and is an active member of the Jefferson County Amateur Radio Club participating in their various Public Service events when time permits. Eventually she hopes to become a teacher.

Matthew S. Biederman, N6NPP - Thousand Oaks, CA
Northern California DX Foundation Scholarship - $1000



Matthew holds a General Class license and reports confirmation from 16 NCDXF sponsored stations. His DXCC certificate shows 160 countries confirmed with 124 of those on 28 MHz. He has successfully completed three years at UCLA where he is majoring in Computer Science with an 1 Economics minor. Both his mother and father are licensed and he indicates numerous items of extra-curricular and community involvement.

David R. Wilson, N3OYF - Columbia, MD
Maryland Mobileer's Memorial Scholarship - $1000

David holds a Technician Class license and will be a freshman at the University of Maryland in College Park where he plans to pursue the Computer Engineering course. He holds a Technician license, is active on 6 meters, 2 meters, and 70 cm and is an active member of the Columbia Amateur Radio Association. He is a Maryland Distinguished Scholar and has earned a Varsity Letter for Cross Country and Track.

Daniel S. Zimmerman, N3UMH - Erie, PA
Potomac Valley Radio Club Scholarship - $1000

Dan holds an Advanced Class license and is active in both the Clarkson University ARC and the Radio Amateurs of Erie (PA). He has completed two years at Clarkson as a Physics major with a 4.0 average. He is an active DXer and holds an Advanced Class license.

Amateur Radio Training

John Forrest WZ4A
6111 Burnett St., Alexandria, VA 22310
(703)971-3905

Please send announcements for training classes and club training contacts to WZ4A at the above address. Deadline is the 25th of the 2nd month prior to the *Auto Call* publication date (e.g., 25 December for the February issue).

Club Training Contacts

Alexandria RC	Rich Adamy KA4GFY	(703) 644-3920
Anne Arundel RC	Tony Young WA3YLO	(301) 262-1917
Arlington ARC	Mike Callaham NW3V	(703) 241-5618
Antietam Radio Assn.	Robert Long KD3JK	(301) 824-5132
BRATS (Baltimore)	Joe Chidester W3SHZ	(410) 602-0353
Baltimore ARC	HAM-TALK, BARC Voice Mail	(410) HAM-TALK x3835
Central MD ARC	Jim Tilton KD3JA	(301) 552-0012
Charles County ARC	Joseph Sartori WB3IUT	(301)753-6320
Dulles ARG	Michael Weber WB8RDN	(703) 450-2304
Fauquier ARA	Neil Spokes AB4YK	(540) 364-3861
Frederick ARC	Hal Silverman W3HWC	(301) 831-7946
Historical Electronics ARC	Rol Anders K3RA	(410) 796-4792
Laurel ARC	Pud Reaver W3YD	(301) 498-6293
Mid-Atlantic DX Assn.	Michael Vaia, WB8VBW	(301) 738-3861
Madras	Larry Ziecheck, N3GKZ	(301) 984-6113
MD Mobileers ARC	Bruce Colburn AA3KR	(410) 437-1891
Montgomery ARC	Rocky Jones KC4UXO	(301) 216-5210
Mt. Vernon ARC	John Forrest WZ4A	(703) 971-3905
NASA/Goddard ARC	Vikki Gigante KA3PVS	(301) 249-2609
Ole VA Hams ARC	Charles Dale WA4YGI	(703) 361-3091
Pentagon ARC	David Boyd K9MX	(540) 659-6241
St. Marys Co. ARC	Peter Butt WA3UMY	(301) 862-2214
Shenandoah Val ARC	Fred Wetzel W4KRT	(540) 678-0394
Southern MD ARC	Vic Curtis WA3YUV	(301) 888-1388
Southern Pax ARC	Dwayne Kincaid WD8OYG	(410) 586-2177
Stafford Adult Ed	Jerry Mullinix AC4HK	(540) 659-3905
Sterling Park ARC	Forrest Snyder N4UTY	(703) 430-4149
Tri-County ARC	John Creel WB3GXW	(301) 572-5124
Vienna Wireless	Kurt Wehle, WA4SMI	(703) 534-3905
Woodbridge Wireless	Jim Duffey WD4AIR	(703) 491-3170

Volunteer Examiner Cooperative

JOHN FORREST WZ4A
6111 Burnett St.
Alexandria, VA, 22310
(703) 971-3905

* Volunteer Examiners may refuse to test any applicant who fails to demonstrate to the VE's satisfaction that the memories in the applicant's calculator are empty. If you bring a calculator to an exam, please be prepared to demonstrate that your memories are empty.

* Effective January 1, 1999, the maximum FCC authorized exam fee is $6.49.

* The FCC now requires Social Security Numbers (SSN's) for all applicants for new licenses, upgrades, and renewals. Please be prepared to provide SSN's at all VE exam sessions.

* Attention VE's - Please send your Y2K exam dates to WZ4A soon to guarantee inclusion in upcoming issues of *AutoCall*.

1999 Schedule of Examinations

November 4 (Thursday)	**Martinsburg, WV** - Mid-Atlantic DX and Rptr Soc. and Winchester ARS (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Limited Walk-In Contact: Greg Lanham KU4AN (540)722-4792 kuan@visuallink.com Alan Moeck WA2RPX (540)869-1117 arm@visuallink.com
November 6 (Saturday)	**Warrenton, VA** - Fauquier ARA (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Neil Spokes, AB4YK (540)364-3861
November 7 (Sunday)	**Landover, MD** - DCMARC (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day, (301)773-2898 Night
November 10 (Wed.)	**Winchester, VA** - Shenandoah Valley ARC (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Limited Walk-In, Contact: Fred Wetzel W4KR (540)678-0394 Greg Lanham KU4AN (540)722-4792 kuan@visuallink.com Alan Moeck WA2RPX (540)869-1117 arm@visuallink.com

November 13 (Saturday)	**Alexandria, VA** - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: John Forrest WZ4A (703)971-3905 Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In, Contact: Oscar Ramsey NV3G (301)262-3392
November 14 (Sunday)	**Middletown, VA** - Winchester ARS (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Limited Walk-In, Contact: Greg Lanham KU4AN (540)722-4792 kuan@visuallink.com Alan Moeck WA2RPX (540)869-1117 arm@visuallink.com
November 20 (Saturday)	**Laurel, MD** - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In, Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM
December 2 (Thursday)	**Martinsburg, WV** - Mid-Atlantic DX and Rptr Soc. and Winchester ARS (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Limited Walk-In Contact: Greg Lanham KU4AN (540)722-4792 kuan@visuallink.com Alan Moeck WA2RPX (540)869-1117 arm@visuallink.com
December 5 (Sunday)	**Landover, MD** - DCMARC (W5YI VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day (301)773-2898 Night
December 11 (Saturday)	**Alexandria, VA** - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In New Location This Month Only - Call for Directions Contact: John Forrest WZ4A (703)971-3905, Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Oscar Ramsey NV3G (301)262-3392
	Cumberland, MD - (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Gay Rembold W3DFW (301)724-0674
December 12 (Sunday)	**Middletown, VA** - Winchester ARS (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Limited Walk-In, Contact: Greg Lanham KU4AN (540)722-4792 kuan@visuallink.com Alan Moeck WA2RPX (540)869-1117 arm@visuallink.com

Alexandria Radio Club

Meetings: Second Friday of each month, 7:30 PM at the Alexandria Fire Department Administrative Office (co-located with Fire Station #54), 900 Second St., Alexandria, VA
Nets: Every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. on 147.315 output / 147.915 input. (W4HFH repeater)
Web page: http://members.aol.com/N4CWP/W4HFH.HTML (or search on Yahoo: W4HFH or Alexandria Radio Club).
Information: Rich -KA4GFY, 703-644-3920.

It s hard to believe the year is almost over, and the new year is closing in fast. With all the talk of Y2K problems, ham radio is getting the spotlight to provide backup communications for public safety agencies in case their communications systems fail. It s not the RF portions of these new radios everyone s concerned about, but the computers that control the radios. No wonder a survey determined that most people are "stressed out" by technology at work.

After spending millions of dollars on the latest and greatest equipment, public safety agencies are looking at radio systems that could potentially think its 1900. Radio as we know it didn't exist in 1900. CW was the ONLY mode of communication by "wireless" in the early days.

Radio technology has made huge advances since then. Those radio systems that could potentially fail are nearly all FM, and many of them are the latest in trunking radio systems. In several years, these very same stations will be retired, and many will find their way to hamfests. Hams will probably find some other way to make use of that technology. It s something to think about.

September was another busy month for the Alexandria Radio Club. We started our Novice/Tech class on the 21st. By the second meeting, some had already attended their first hamfest, and were asking, "So, when s the next one?" With that kind of enthusiasm, it looks like we will have some very active hams in the next few months.

We also provided communications support for the Scottish Heritage Festival at Ft. Ward Park in early October. The sponsors allowed us to put up a demonstration station and make a few contacts. Demo stations always attract a few curious people who want to know, "Why do the people on the other end sound like Donald Duck, or does anybody still use code?"

As we move toward the winter months, look for club members to be on the air in some of the upcoming contests. Several members have been involved in contesting, and the fever is spreading. Contesting is a great way to sharpen your operating skills, and makes getting those operating awards easy.

We have started planning for next year, and have several great activities and programs in the works. There are so many facets of ham radio, there is a potential for new programs all the time.

One club activity that has become popular is the license classes. After taking several years off from teaching, this class has been very successful. The students are very motivated to become hams, and the instructors are even more motivated to teach the material.

It s hard to tell who gets more benefit from the classes, the students who earn their license at the end, or the instructors who do the teaching. The students ask questions about ham radio, and the instructors are more than happy to explain.

Several club members have also stopped by to see what s going on. It s that kind of interest in ham radio that will keep ham radio going for the years to come.

73, Rich, KA4GFY

AARC Anne Arundel Radio Club

Meetings: 8 PM 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Davidsonville Family Recreation Center, Queen Anne Bridge & Wayson Roads off MD Rt. 214 near Annapolis.
On the air: 2030 Thursdays when there is no club meeting on 147.705/105. Tuesdays at 2030 local time on 28.410. Wednesdays at 2000 on 444.400. The Chesapeake Weather & Traffic Net on 147.705/105 at 1100 and 1500 every weekend day and public holiday from April 1 to November 15. MSN (Maryland Slow Net) every evening at 1930 on 3.7170 MHz.
Address: P.O. Box 308, Davidsonville, MD 21035.
Information: Margaret (Holly) Bevan, 410-923-0229.

On Saturday September 25th about a dozen club volunteers, coordinated by Mike Waranis/KF4PVN, provided communications support for the annual "America's Walk for Diabetes" held by the American Diabetes Association at the Quiet Waters Park in Hillsmere. Over 150 walkers raised $10,000 for the cause.

At the clubhouse on September 11th, Coordinator Oscar Ramsey/NV3G, Bob Rose/AA3RR and Frank Rose/W3RO gave 10 tests to 5 persons. Six tests were passed with three upgrades.

Other members of the team were Harlan Ray/AA3FE, Hollis Thigpen/KC3X and Holly Bevan/N3MB. The next testing session at the clubhouse will be on November 13th.

73, Holly/N3MB

Capital City Amateur Radio Society

Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month at 1200 hours at the Woodridge Public Library, 18th and Rhode Island Ave, N.E., Washington, D.C. Visitors welcome.
Repeater: W3ETX 144.51/145.11 MHz, open.
Nets: Computer Monday at 2000 hrs., Regular net Wednesday at 2000 hrs. RTTY net Thursday 2100 hrs., voice portion 2145 hrs. all on 145.110.
Mailing Address CCARS P.O. Box 92304 Washington. D.C. 20090-2304
Information: Steve, W3ETX, (202) 526-1329 or Joe K3UAL (301) 773-5074 EMail K3UAL_1@Juno.com

CCARS held it's first fall meeting Saturday. September 18. 1999 after a summer vacation break. The meeting was called to order at the Woodridge Library 18th and Rhode Island Avenue. N. E. by club President Calvin Cooley WA3HPS . participation by many members was encouraging . Our Fall and Winter programs were introduced.

Our sick and shut-ins are Ed W3HQ making fine progress . Juanita N3NQC and James WA3WNL. We are urging each member to take a few minutes of your week and contact each member on this sick list and give some words of encouragement to them.

The club sends condolences to Tom AA3MN on the passing of his mother.

Present at the meeting: Cyrus N3EPH. Harold N3QEX. Colin N3UBI. Eugene KD3XI. Steve W3ETX. Shep WB3KIC. Willis N3LGB. Calvin WA3HPS. Calvin KA3 ZOZ. Bob KA3GER. Joc K31JAL. Roberta N3RRD. Lydon N3RFH. Jim AA3CD. John N3TCD Francis WA3ULX. James N3QPR

Remember our Wednesday nite Net at 8:00 p.m. Check-in and boost our participation. a lot of information is presented on the net that is of benefit to you.

In the near future CCARS is hoping to have a New Electronics Bulletin. Please let Colin N3UBI have your E-mail address so you can receive the bulletins.

The fine Repass was rendered by Roberta N3RRD, Lydon N3RFH and John N3TCD.

73's, Joe K3UAL

Central Maryland Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 4th Friday of the month at 7:30pm, at the Doctors Community Hospital, 8118 Good Luck Road, Lanham, MD (no meeting in December). Enter in the Outpatient Testing entrance across from the Emergency Room entrance behind the main building. Take the elevator to the 5th floor and exit left, the meeting room (DSE Room) is on the right.
Repeater: N3EZD/R 145.230 Mhz. Transmit a 110.9 Hz CTCSS Tone for full area coverage. No tone necessary for local coverage.
Net: Every Tuesday, 9:30pm, 145.230 MHz repeater.
Mailing Address: Central Maryland Amateur Radio Club, P. O. Box 788, Greenbelt, MD 20768-0788.
Information: Jim Tilton, Pres. - KD3JA, (301) 552-0012.)
Web Page: http://www.erols.com/jctilton/cmarc/.

Novice/Technician Class Started September 18th

CMARC conducted an entry-level Amateur Radio class leading to an FCC Novice and/or Technician class license starting on September 18, 1999. The class was held weekly on Saturday mornings at the Doctors Community Hospital in Lanham, MD. As many as eleven students attended the classes. Testing will be held on November 20th at Doctors Community Hospital. Testing is open to any prospective ham, whether or not they attended the CMARC class. Non-class attendees, however, should pre-register for testing by calling Jim Tilton/KD3JA days at (301) 286-9510 or evenings at (301) 552-0012, or by sending him email at jctilton@erols.com .

Greenbelt Labor Day Festival and Labor Parade - Sept. 3-6

CMARC operated a Special Event radio station at the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival on September 3rd and 4th as the weather allowed (the remnants of Hurricane Dennis moved through the Greenbelt area that weekend!). We also planned to operate the station on September 5th, but a strong wind blew down our canopy shelter early that morning forcing us to cancel operations for that day. However, the weather held for the Labor Day Parade on September 6th, and the parade was a success. CMARC again provided communications for the parade, along with performing most of the parade marshalling duties.

September 24 Meeting

CMARC's September 24th meeting was dominated by a lively discussion of our involvement in the Greenbelt Labor Day parade. While we all agreed that, despite some rough spots, things went off very well. However, we realized that we were lucky that this was a non-election year, making this year's parade much shorter than the times when all the politicians take part. If this was an election year, we would have been spread too thin. The problem is CMARC is expected not only to provide communications for the parade, but also to do the majority of the parade marshalling duties. Next year, which will be an election year, we need to be sure we get sufficient help from non-ham volunteers to help with the parade marshalling duties.

October 22 Meeting

Elections of club officers was be held at CMARC's October 22nd meeting. The nominating committee submitted the following nominees for consideration: Jim Tilton/KD3JA, President; Mike Rafatjah/N3UEZ, Vice-President; Chuck Haglegans/N3ODK, Secretary, and Tony Fominaya/N3JWT, Treasurer.

73 de Jim/KD3JA

Charles County Amateur Radio Club

Meeting: General membership meeting first Friday of every month at 7:30 PM in the Office of Emergency Preparedness, Charles County Government Building, 200 Washington Ave, La Plata, MD. All are welcome. Mailing **Address:** Charles County Amateur Radio Club, Inc., P.O. Box 668, White Plains, MD 20695-0668.
E-Mail: K3SMD@QSL.NET
Repeaters: KA3GRW/R, 443.700+, La Plata, W6QMN/R, 145.39+(PL7Z), Hughesville, MD, W3ERU/R, 146.850, Blossom Point, MD.
Club Call Sign: K3SMD
Website: HYPERLINK http://www.qsl.net/k3smd http://www.qsl.net/k3smd
Information: Greg, WA3FSC (301) 753-4393

First, we would like to extend the appreciation of CCARC to Mike Tackish, KA3GRW, for his service as past president. Our congratulations also go out to Greg, WA3FSC, on this election as President and JD, W3SMD, on his election as the Vice President. We also welcome Cliff, N3YYP, on his return to CCARC. It is great to see a growing number of folks taking an interest in our activities. As we have seen from our recent membership meetings, our attendance is really beginning to increase. As we continue to grow, so will the opportunities to participate in a growing range of exciting activities. Of course we have had our share of activities recently.

Hurricane Floyd really provided excitement for all of us. Our RACES group was alerted on Wednesday, September 15th and activated on Thursday. We had enough members available to staff the EOC and the two Red Cross evacuation shelters utilized during the operation. Other members volunteered to continue the emergency operations upon their return from work that day.

Luckily, the storm changed course before we had to open more shelters or go into 24-hour operation mode. We hope that you caught in The Maryland Independent the article and pictures of Michael Flynn, N3ZXS, operating at one of the shelters.

Right on the heels of hurricane Floyd (in fact, the next day) was the Charles County Fair. Our displays and demonstrations were really super and participation great. We looked great and got the word out to quite a number of people that CCARC exists and has a lot of exciting activities. Make sure that you check out the pictures on the CCARC web site of our Fair activities that were taken by Allen, KA3ZPA.

Then there was the Century Bike Race on the Sunday of the Fair which Tom, W3TOM, Debbie, KA3VNF, and Mike, KA3GRW, handled beautifully. As if that weren't enough, on Sunday, September 26th, (yes, the same day as the FARFEST) Art, N3KUQ, Bill, WB3KYW, and Mike, KA3GRW, provided vital communications for the annual Doncaster horse trail ride.

Coming off of these events, on October 30th we participated in the Maryland Simulated Emergency Test (SET). This gave us a real chance to refine our emergency communications skills and further prepared us for the upcoming Y2K transition period. We have lots of opportunities like these for anyone interested, come out and join us.

Bob, W3LZX, our activities manager, has been working hard on the activities for the remainder of this year and the beginning of the next. He is looking for some help, so if you can spare a little time, please let him know. This is your organization, help make it the best around.

Thanks to Gary, K3GRG, who has accepted appointment as the CCARC Legislative Coordinator. With Gary's help we will keep on top of the local and national legislative activities that could affect Amateur Radio and us directly.

We are planning on having a Technician/ General training class in the spring. In order to do this we need some folks to develop and/or teach this program. If you are interested, please give me a call. This is the opportunity for some of you who have expressed an interest in Amateur Radio training. On October 6th we kicked off our fall Novice/Technician class. It won't be too much longer before we can add these folks to the list of licensed Amateurs in Southern Maryland.

Make sure that you have our meetings on your schedule. You can keep up with our planned activities from our web site at HYPERLINK http://www.qsl.net/k3smd/upcoming.html http://www.qsl.net/k3smd/upcoming.html. Look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

73, Greg, WA3FSC

Chapter X

Society of Wireless Pioneers

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF PROFESSIONAL RADIO TELEGRAPHERS

For Information Call
(703) 536-9537

Columbia Amateur Radio Association

Club meeting: Every fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Bethany United Methodist Church on Bethany Lane in Ellicott City. Monitor net repeater for directions.
Repeaters: 147.735/147.135 (cross-linked to 222.32/223.92). Net Repeater. PL control of 156.7. 147.990/147.390. Open autopatch and direct dial 911. 222.32/223.92 (cross-linked to 147.735/147.135). 443.275/448.275 PL control of 156.7. 444.475/449.475. Autopatch & 911.
Mailing: Columbia Amateur Radio Assoc. (CARA), Box 911, Columbia, MD 21044.
Web Page: http://www.qsl.net/cara/
Activities: CARA breakfast: 9:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of the month at Jilly's Restaurant in the Enchanted Forest Shopping Center on Rte. 40. Contact Bob/KC3EV by 6:00 p.m. the day before the breakfast.
Information: Bob/KC3EV, 410-465-2421

Howard County Y2K

At our September meeting John Frank, Chief of Fire and Rescue Services for Howard County, briefed club members on County efforts to prepare for Y2K. It was an impressive explanation of a two year task to identify, anticipate, plan, and execute a comprehensive approach to this problem. A full range of county services from uniformed safety and health officers to community organizations are involved. The EOC will be operational on New Year's Eve, and fire, police, and emergency medical personnel will be on ready alert from December 28th through January 5th. Response plans are ready for "ho-hum" to disaster scenarios.

Chief Frank emphasized the role of RACES/ ARES in County communications, and encouraged club members to become involved and get some training in the next few months. We have a solid core of RACES/ARES members but are always

looking for more help. Everyone is checking their equipment and gearing up for what many think will be a non-event, but for which we want to be very prepared in case Y2K causes substantial disruptions. The Howard County on-the-air RACES exercise meets on the Net repeater (147.135+) at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday each month. On-the-air ARES net: Net repeater at 7:30 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month.

CARA Hamfest

As this goes to press the club is planning the 1999 CARA Hamfest at the Howard County Fairgrounds. We are hoping that the 1999 F.A.R.Fest gorgeous weather graces us rather than the drizzle that soaked us last year. I'll give you a report next month.

Fall Club Schedule

After a busy summer of hands-on meetings where we built kits, constructed antennas, and practiced our soldering skills the fall club meetings will be more business oriented. In October we will be discussing amendments to our By-Laws, Board nominations, and next spring's programs. November is our Board elections meeting and there will be several club issues to vote on as well. December is a bye. And speaking of "bye", I hope you will have stopped "by" our hamfest to "buy" all those items you need for your winter projects.

73 de Tim/W1TRT

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Licensed at least 25 years ago?
And licensed now?
Then you should belong to the
Quarter Century Wireless Association
For information write:
159 E. 16th Ave., Dept F
Eugene, OR 97401-4017
http://www.qcwa.org

Fauquier Amateur Radio Association

Club Call Sign: W4FAU
Meeting: 2nd Thursday, 7:30 pm at the Crestar Bank in the Warrenton Shopping Center (across from Safeway and Radio Shack) No meetings during July, August and December.
Repeater: NZ4N, 147.165(+)
Net: Every Wednesday night at 2100 hrs, local.
Packet: KE4YVU FARA7 node 145.070 Mhz w/direct connect to FBBS9, FBBS9 Bulletin Board 145.090, FARA9 node 145.090 Mhz.
Mailing Address: Post Office Box 752, Warrenton, VA 20187
Web: http://www.mnsinc.com/ki4ro/fara.htm
Breakfast: Last Saturday of the Month at the Town and Country Restaurant off of Route 29 in New Baltimore, VA. Time: 8:00 am.
Newsletter: TOROID, monthly ñ deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month. Editor can be reached at n4qpb@mnsinc.com
Next Meeting: September 9th

As can be seen from below, the past few weeks have been eventful for the Fauquier Amateur Radio Association:

Simulated Emergency Test (SET)

FARA conducted a SET on October 2. It involved the Fauquier Fire, Rescue, and Sheriff organizations across the county. The SET was activated using the FARA ARES Calling Tree and within a few minutes of the first telephone call, participants were on their way to the Fauquier County Emergency Communications Center.

As the individual participants arrived, they were dispatched to the areas of concern including riding in County Emergency vehicles as well as to be stationed at the Fauquier Hospital. The event ran from 0730 to 1200.

This event was to prepare for FARA's participation as Y2K support for Fauquier County. The critique which was held at the October 8th meeting went well and showed that FARA is quite able to meet the needs of Fauquier County should a problem occur with their communications during the Y2K changeover.

Special Event Station — October 23 — 24

The FARA operated a Special Event station, using the call sign of N4M, during the weekend of the Marine Corps Marathon on October 23 — 24. The operating times were 0800-1700 local time both days.

The QSL address is for the Special Event is: KE4YVU, FARA Marathon, P.O. Box 752, Warrenton, VA 20188. Please send a 9x12, stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of your certificate.

FARA TO HOLD VEC EXAM - Walk-ins permitted.

The next FARA exam is 9 - 12 am, November 6 at the Fauquier Agricultural Extension (4-H) office at 24 Pelham Street in Warrenton. Pelham Street is just across Waterloo Street from Napoleon's Restaurant. We were delighted with the facilities last time - big exam room and separate CW room.

John, KI4RO, will be the liaison to ARRL . To contact him, please send e-mail to John_ki4ro@yahoo.com or you may call him at home after 6 PM at 540-937-5687.

SILENT KEY

FARA is sad to report the passing of Francis ("Harper") Harper, W4IWZ. Harper was a Charter member of the FARA. His participation with the FARA had declined over the past years but he continued to operate on HF as well as some VHF. He will be missed. Harper is survived by his wife and granddaughter.

Green Mountain Repeater Association

Repeaters: *146.61 Cheverly, *146.88 Greenbelt. *(Autopatch).
Information: Roy Ashlin, N3NGA, (301)-210-7034
Mail: P.O. Box 572, Bladensburg, MD, 20710
E-mail: mgreen@erols.com.
Socials: Luncheon, 1st Saturday of each month at 11:30 A.M., Laurel Centre Indoor Mall Eatery.
Nets: 146.88 - Old Gent's Net, 9:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M. every day. Washington Adventist Amateur Radio Association Net, every Thursday at 9:30 P.M.

28 YEARS AGO:

28 years ago, the 146.610 Cheverly repeater was activated by it's founding fathers. Shortly thereafter the 146.880 Greenbelt repeater became operational. I would like to take this opportunity to wish the over 200 GMRA membership, a very happy 28th birthday.

BI ANNUAL NEWSLETTER:

The Fall/Winter Year 2000 Newsletter should be in the mail by the first week of November. In addition to plenty of photographs and articles, a membership renewal form and self-addressed envelope will be enclosed. We look forward to your continued membership and support as we celebrate GMRA's 28th year of service to the Amateur and Local communities.

POST OFFICE ADDRESS CHANGE:

The new address for GMRA is P.O. Box 572, Bladensburg, MD, 20710-0572. If not changed in

this month's column header, it will be for future issues.

NEW TREASURER:

I am pleased to announce that Board of Director member, Roy Ashlin, N3NGA, will assume the duties and responsibilities of Treasurer, from retiring Board Member Don Tinari, W3RYQ. More on that in our bi-annual Newsletter.

QST ARTICLE:

Your attention is invited to the November issue of QST and the feature article entitled: "Build It And They Will Come". We hope you enjoy it. We enjoyed writing it.

CONDOLENCES:

Our sincere condolences to Alice Nunemaker, WB3AOA, on the loss of her mother. During her mother's lengthy illness, Alice was always there for her, despite working long hours at her most demanding job at the Washington Hospital Center and caring for her own family. No one could ask for a finer daughter. I am proud to call Alice (Allie) my friend.

73, Murray, K3BEQ

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Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, 5:30 PM,In the Historical Electronics Museum, West Nursery Road and Elkridge Landing Roads. Linthicum, Maryland (Next to BWI Marriott Hotel).
Info: Nick Yokanovich, K3NY 410-544-5736
Club Station: W3GR.
Mail: P.O. Box 746, Mail Stop 4015, Baltimore , MD 21203.
Web Page: http://members.aol.com/wk3p/se.htm
Street address: 1745 W. Nursery Rd., Linthicum, MD 21090.

W2W Pearl Harbor Day Special Event Station

On Saturday December 4th and Sunday December 5th 1999, HEMARC will operate as W2W for the third annual Pearl Harbor Day Memorial special event station.

W2W will operate from 1400Z (9AM EST) to 2200Z (5PM EST) on SSB and CW in the novice/general portion of at least the 40, 20 and 15 Meter bands.

A special 8x10 certificate will be available in return for a QSL with 2 33 cent stamps.

Successful FARFest 99 at Baysox Stadium

The FARFest 99 was a welcome success as far as HEMARC is concerned. Gary Ryan, W3GMY; Sam Bryant, WC3SAM; Charlie Angel, AA3FB; Mike Conlon KB3CPV; Alan Racial, W3IKI; Nick Yokanovich, K3NY and Chip Weems, W4PBG enjoyed working the gate, setup etc. and the HEMARC table.

At the HEMARC table the visitors were very interesting and we got the impression that this FARFest was generally enjoyed and that the new facilities were a big improvement in many ways. Thanks to all of you that dropped in to chat.

Maryland/DC QSO Party

The final results are in an HEMARC is quite proud to have placed 5th in its category. Not bad for a first try.

The September Meeting

Bob Bruinga, WB4APR presented an update on the Automatic Packet Reporting System (Or if you prefer - Amateur Position Reporting System)

It is quite remarkable that this amateur system has advanced to the point where it has proven superior to many commercial systems. We can t wait to see how it performs when the amateur station in the International Space Station becomes operational.

Museum Expansion, W3GR Moved

The Historical Electronics Museum is expanding again and W3GR has moved to a new and better position. One of the features is a larger place for meetings. When all the new paint has dried and all the new brass has been polished we will publish the details. Stay tuned.

1933 ARRL Radio Amateurs Handbook Acquired

A 1933 ARRL Radio Amateurs Handbook has been added to the already extensive collection of amateur radio literature. This donation is quite interesting in many ways. Hams really got a lot for $1.00 back then.

If you have an older handbook to donate, it would be very much appreciated.

73 Chip W4PBG

The Maryland Apple Dumpling Radio Amateur Society, Inc.

Meetings: 2nd and 4th Thursdays - 7:00 P.M. St. Paul's Church, 10401 Armory Avenue, Kensington, Maryland 20895.
Clubhouse:MADRAS Clubhouse,11800 Coakley Circle, Rockville, MD 20852
Nets: 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 9:00 P.M. on 145.45 MHz (PL-5A).
Repeaters: 444.100/449.100 MHz (PL-2A), 145.45/144.85 MHz (PL-5A).
WWW Address: http://www.3phase. com/ madras/
Mailing: P. O. Box 2468, Wheaton, MD 20902
Information: Leo Boberschmidt W3LEO (301)946-3738, Jean Blacik N3PLC (301) 984-6114.
Club Call Sign: W3MAD
E-Mail: leob@erols.com

Our 2-meter repeater is back on the air and all is well. We had to shut down its operation for one week while an internal survey was being performed.

Our business meeting, which was held on September 9th, was very well attended. We had an opportunity to go over the programs and projects for the coming season.

We are concentrating on the special event with the boy scouts which will take place on October 16th. Our committee is hard at work getting together all the equipment we will need for operation on that weekend, plus lining up all the volunteers. We are hoping that this year's JOTA (Jamboree on the Air) will be as successful as it was the previous year.

The monthly dinner meeting held at Chef Theo's on the 23rd of September drew a large number of members this month. It was a very

enjoyable evening and the food was particularly good that night.

MADRAS had a table at the FARFEST this year, which was held for the first time in Bowie, Maryland at Price George's Stadium. Members donated items to be sold with the proceeds going to the Club's treasury. Several of our members volunteered to man that table during the day.

Mark your calendars for the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month and join us for our non-meeting night net. We are on our 2-meter repeater at 9:00 P.M. Members and non-members are welcome. See you on 14S.45.

November 11th will be our only meeting that month. Thanksgiving always falls on our 2nd meeting during the month.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL.

73 .... Jean - N3PLC

Metropolitan Communications Network Radio Club, Inc.

Meetings: Quarterly, Second Sunday of the month at 13:30 p.m. Place TBA
Repeater: 52.250 IN/53.350 Out.
Net: AM Coffee net Sunday 9:00 AM on 50.400
Information: 6608 N. 18th St. Arlington, VA 22205

Our quarterly meeting was held Sunday, September 197 1999 at the QTH of W. Joe Saunders K3UAL. Usual new and old business was conducted at the meeting. The meeting also included a Cook-out with "Goodies" for all. The membership friends and families enjoyed an afternoon of food, fun and frolic in thei yard and swimming pool. Two of our three new members were present. Lee K3RE. John W30J who are new members were present the third new member Joe K3CHP was excused, he had a previously planned engagement.

The club will conduct a new Net on 6 Meters. It is planned for 50.400 MHz on the 19• and last Monday of each month at 8:00 p.m. local time. Format of the Net is as follows: The Net will be a directed net by a Net Control Operator. There will be a Traffic portion and a QSO portion. Check-in will Call, Name. QTH or Mobile, Traffic or No Traffic. The first Net is scheduled for Monday, September 27 1999 8:00 p.m. local. 2000 UTC.

73's Joe K3UAL

National Capital ARES Council

NCAC Net: Sunday at 9 PM on 146.655(-)
Voice mail: (703) 359-3414.
E-mail: NCAC@usa.net.

The Council is a group of ARES & RACES appointed officials and other interested volunteers. Our objective is to encourage planning and training on a regional basis so that hams from different jurisdictions are able to work more smoothly in support of each other's activities. This is especially important when an event is long term or widespread like search and rescue or disaster operations (for example) can be. Our meetings and nets are open to any interested amateur.

NCAC Net: Sunday, 9 PM on 146.91 (-)

Marine Corps Marathon: By the time you receive this MCM 99 will be history. Amateur radio has supported the Marine Corps and Navy Medical Staff for this activity for well over twenty years. I can remember being on an ambulance in the early years when there was no common means of communications between medical personnel. No one appreciates the difference we've made over

the years better than I!

Even though we don't ride on or dispatch the ambulances anymore, our roll in MCM grows every year. This year we will have deployed one-hundred amateur radio volunteers. Volunteers come from DC, Maryland and Virginia and we've had some drop in from Pennsylvania & even Washington State.

Directed nets co-located with Arlington County Fire Department personnel and Navy Medical Control assist with delivery of supplies and personnel and watch for runners having difficulty or potential problems on the course and there isn't any part of the course that is not seen directly by someone on one of our nets. Hams on bikes circulate in congested areas where vehicles can't go and often transport needed medical supplies between aid stations.

The job of planning and coordination is a considerable one. Using primarily simplex frequencies with repeater back-up, each one is tested from each stop along the route to eliminate any that might have interference problems. Volunteers are polled and assigned according to their background and available equipment. Computer programming designed by amateurs links a digital net passing sensitive patient information and census statistics to medical control.

The key is the objective of NCAC—encouraging hams from across the region to plan, train and work together. Twice a year we offer training for those who are interested—especially those who have no local resource. You can find more information on the next Institute below.

Public Service Calendar:

November 13—Virginia District 2 Digital Training: 10:00 - 12:00 at Virginia Power near Routes 66 & 50 in Fairfax County. Bring your own portable equipment. Contact Dan at W4DJV@arrl.net for registration.

December 4—ARES Institute: 8:30 - 5:00 at American Red Cross Headquarters at Route 50 and the Capital Beltway. Topics included will be the operational plan for New Year's Eve readiness for communications problems caused by the"Y2K bug", Winter Storm Reporting, Directed Net Procedures, National Traffic System, Alternative Power Sources and others to be announced. Cost is only $10 and includes materials and lunch. Pre-registration is required.

New Year's Eve: ARES and RACES should be prepared for possible activation by local jurisdictions. Many jurisdictions have already determined that there will be at least minimal activation on New Year's Eve into New Year's Day as they access effects of computer problems in other countries as midnight makes its way around the world. Please plan to have equipment ready, generators tuned, batteries charged and check in to local repeaters for information on those days. Look for an article on the operational plan for this region in next month's Autocall.

You can contact NCAC at NCAC@usa.net or K4ARC@qsl.net. Thanks for the support!

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Mailing Address: PO Box 1255 Manassas, VA 20108.
Club Call Sign: W4OVH
OVH Repeaters: 146.97-, 224.660-, 442.200+
OVH Packet Nodes: 145.030 (Port 1), 223.540 (Port 3)
BBS: BBSNVA/N4WJN (SYSOP: Bill)
Internet: http://www.qsl.net/olevahams
Meeting: Third Monday of every month. Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative Technical Center Gainesville VA.
Weekly nets: Thursday 8pm club net, Sunday 8pm YL talk net.
Information: Mary Lu KB4EFP (703)369-2877.

With the summer season a fond memory and fall activities now in full swing, those of us here at OVH have been staying busy with a number of ham related activities. A recent meeting was held on the subject of VDEN (Virginia Digital Emergency Network). Mike Kelly (AB4YY) presented an enlightening as well as informative discussion of this network which is primarily designed for emergency communication to and from the Virginia Emergency Operations Center in Richmond, VA. Mike presented maps showing the location of various nodes within the network and how they are interconnected. The main packet frequency for VDEN is 145.730 at 1200 baud and additional information about VDEN is located at the following internet address: http://users.erols.com/sagers.

A presentation was given by one of our own club members, Art Whittum, (KW4AW) about radio direction finding techniques. Some of these include: construction techniques for direction finding antennas (not to mention displaying a couple of these antennas and demonstrating how they work), a discussion on methods used for locating the source of radio signals as well as some practical examples on putting these techniques to use (an example was finding a transceiver that was locked in the transmit mode which was causing interference to one of the club's repeater). Many thanks to Art for providing an interesting and informative discussion on this topic.

OVH provided communications support for the Nokesville Fun Run and Bike Tour on September 25th which was sponsored by the PWC Park Authority. OVH has worked with the Park Authority in the past to help with this event and it was once again a great success. The point was brought home how important amateur radio can be in providing emergency communications in two situations on Saturday. First when one of the runners suffered from dehydration, radio communications were used to call net control for a rescue squad. Net control in turn gave the message to Park Authority officials who called the request in on their cellular phone. This shows that even with modern cellular communications being readily available there is still a place for the support of amateur radio in this type of event. The second instance occurred when one of the bike riders fell off of his bike while traveling on a short stretch of gravel road. The first ones on the scene were OVH members who stayed with the biker and made sure he was okay. Luckily he received only minor scratches but if it had been more than that, medical aid would have been available more quickly due to the presence of amateur radio. Many thanks to Larry (KA4CTX) for his help in coordinating OVH's participation in this event with the Park Authority as well as the following members of OVH who volunteered their time to help out with this event: Art (KW4AW), Steve (N4OGR), Jan (KE4TMW), Jim (WD4OJY), Ruth (KU4WH), Jim (N3ODZ), Milt (N4SN), Brian (KE4GKH), Keith (KM4AA) and Brian (KE4NFK). Also a special thank you goes out to Steve (N4OGR) for bringing his portable mast antenna which was put up at about 25 feet with a Ringo Ranger on top. This helped net control as well as other stations use low power for handling communications during this event.

See you next month
73 for now, Ruth KU4WH

Potomac Valley Radio Club

Packet: W3LPL 145.59 441.25, KE3Q 145.57, WR3L 145.61 440.95, N3RR 145.51 441.325, K3SKE 144.93, N4OHE 145.71 440.925, K3MQH 145.63, N4SR 145.63, K4FJ 145.77, W4XP 144.99
Web: www.pvrc.org & www.pagesz.net/~pvrcnc
Repeater: 147.000(-) Thanks to Ashton RCS
Information: Bob Dannals, W2GG@arrl.net, 410-472-2004 before 9pm and Rich Boyd, KE3Q@erols.com, 301-464-8014

This column will provide the casual operator with sufficient information to participate in three

selected November contests. You do not have to be a member of any club or send in a score to enjoy operating in contests and helping others to earn points. However, if you are interested in contesting and live in the area shown on our logo, you might consider joining PVRC; a non-dues club.

The October issue of Autocall had a full page description of the PVRC organization. Local times are given below but logs should be in UTC (Zulu) time.

Sweepstakes-CW. Nov 6th 4pm to Nov 7th 11pm. 1.8 - 28 MHz except WARC bands. Mostly in general class bands with some novice band activity. Work US (including possessions) and Canadian stations.

A sample exchange is: NR123 A N4XYZ 97 VA where NR# is a sequential QSO number starting with 001, A is the entry category, N4XYZ is senders call, 97 is operators year of first license, and VA is the senders ARRL section. The entry categories are: Q for QRP (5 W), A for low power (150 W), B for high power, U for unlimited single operator, M for multiple operators, and S for school station. Work each station only once during the contest regardless of the band.

Sweepstakes-Phone. Nov 20th 4pm to Nov 21nd 11pm. See CW rules above.

CQ Worldwide DX Contest - CW. Nov 26th 7pm to Nov 28th 7pm. 1.8 through 28 MHz except WARC bands. Work anybody in the world except only the first station your work in your own country per zone per band yields score points. The exchange is signal report and zone number, i.e., 59905.

Most will send 599 regardless of your actual RST. We're in zone 5.

73, Dick Wilder, K3DI,
913 Shore Acres Rd, Arnold, MD 21012-1724
wilder@clark.net 410-757-6706

Quarter Century Wireless Assn. Chapter #91

Meetings: Neighbor's Restaurant, Cedar Lane and Park Street, Vienna, VA; third Saturdays; Noon. Business/Program Meetings: Odd-numbered months. (Come at 11:30 to chat; program begins at noon.) Informal/Ragchew Meetings: Even-numbered months.
Newsletter: Bi-monthly to all members.
Information: Jim Wilcox (W3WV), Publicity Chair; 3442 Surrey Lane, Falls Church VA 22042; 703-560-0757.Also on the VHF net.
VHF FM Net: Sunday 9 AM, 146.79MHz.

K4LMB Assigned to YLRL

Ethel Smith, K4LMB, (SK) indeed was a most-loved member of QCWA. She did so very much for Amateur radio that it would be impossible to put value on it. More importantly, though, she was an exceptional human being and an extraordinary friend.

One benefit Ethel brought to Ham radio is the Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL). It was her letter published in QST in 1939, and her subsequent drive and leadership, that resulted in the founding of YLRL.

Because Ethel indeed was the founding mother' of YLRL, it is fitting that YLRL now holds Ethel's call, K4LMB, as their club call. Check out the YLRL web site at <http://www.qsl.net/~ylrl.

Ethel also was a driving force in the founding of Chapter 91ís widely popular Sunday morning VHF net, which celebrated its 'ninth birthday' on 16 September.

YLRL granted permission to Chapter 91 to use ìK4LMBî as the net call for this birthday net. We were even further honored in that YLRL had not yet used the call, so Chapter 91 was the first to put

ìK4LMB,î the call of our (arguably) favorite member, back on the air.

We very much thank YLRL, especially Nancy Rabel Hall, KC4IYD, the YLRL President, for the privilege of using ìK4LMB.î And Ethel, thanks so much for the difference you made in the world; we can't repay you enough.

September Meeting

Nineteen people (14 members and five guests) attended the 18 September meeting of Vic Clark Chapter 91 of QCWA at Neighbor's Restaurant in Vienna. President Terry Hines, N4ZH, presided.

Program

Dave Buckwalter, KC3CL/KG4CL, told us about his experiences in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where he had four tours of duty in the U.S. Navy from 1972 to 1991. His talk was lively and augmented by many 35mm slides.

He spoke of the history of the base (the oldest U.S. military base, and the only one in a Communist country) and what it's like to live there and be a Ham there.

The perimeter of the 5.4-square-mile base is surrounded by a doubly-fenced compound, the inner fence guarded by the U.S. Marine Corps, and the outer fence guarded by the Cuban militia. The fences enclose the largest mine field in the free world; not much crosses it except for an occasional iguana.

"GITMO" was established as a U.S. military base in 1903 by treaty following the Spanish-American War. The annual rent was set at $1200 payable in gold. In 1934, the treaty was revised and the annual rent went to $4085 payable by check. Since Fidel Castro came to power, only one of those checks has been cashed-the rest are being held by the Cuban government as part of its protest against the presence of the U.S. base in Cuba.

Castro cut off the water supply to the base in 1954. In response, the U.S. installed an oil-fired power generation and desalination plant. In 1959, the gates to the base were closed, and it has been isolated by the Cuban government ever since. All the base's infrastructure and supplies are supplied from by ships entering Guantanamo Bay. The Cuban civilians who worked on the base either defected and remained to live on the base, or are subject to being strip-searched by the Cuban militia each day as they enter and leave. Gradually, the Cuban workers have been replaced by Jamaicans who live on the base.

KG4-land is an excellent DX location for those who hold a valid Amateur radio license and who obtain a KG4 call issued by the base communications office. These calls are issued only to Hams who pay $1 to join one of the two base radio clubs, the Navy radio club, KG4AN, or the Marine Corps radio club, KG4AM. Such a call indicates you are a "Guantanamanian."

Thanks to Dave for his excellent presentation!

Business

VP Dick Rucker, KM4ML, reporting in behalf of Secretary Jack Kelleher, W4ZC, noted that we have taken in five new members and two new newsletter subscribers since the first of the year. Chapter 91 currently has 78 paid up chapter members, including 25 Life members. In addition, we have eight 'friends of the chapter' who pay for a newsletter subscription.

Our auction and other donations added $92.50 to the Treasury. Thanks so very much to Carl Gray, W4ACM, and Bix Bixby, W4BIX!

Gaithersburg . . . oops . . . Bowie

We had a table at FARFest and enjoyed chatting with our visitors. We also added four new members, with several more applications taken by people who swore they'd fill them out and return them; don't forget! Thanks to Jim, W4EE; Jim,

W3WV; and Judi, K3HB, for manning (personning?) the table.

Upcoming Events

16 October: tour of PBS's Satellite Teleport facility in Alexandria, then lunch at the nearby Four Seasons Restaurant.

20 November: regular business meeting at Neighbor's restaurant, election of officers.

18 December: holiday luncheon at P.J. Skidoo's in Fairfax.

Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 8:00 P.M. - Third Monday of the month except July and August at Sterling Community Center Annex, Church Rd. (Rt. 625) near Route 28, Sterling, VA.
Mailing: Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167.
Information: Bill Lorentz, KS4II, 703-444-6341 or via email KS4II@AOL.com.
Home Page: www.qsl.net/sterling
Club Callsign: K4NVA

Twenty-one members and guests attended the annual "Open House" SPARC meeting in September. The door prize, an ARRLWorld Map, was awarded to Bill Baker.

Our new president Mike Sheleheda, KD4MTW introduced the newly elected officers and presented some of his future plans for guest speakers and club activities.

This is the start of another exciting year for SPARC with improvements and updates planned for the club web page, VA QSO Party and our Field Day effort.

73, Bill, KS4II

The Middle Atlantic FM and Repeater Council, Inc.

Meetings: Coordinating Committee (CC) meets the last Monday of each month, 19:30, in the conference room of the Prince George's County Emergency Operations Center off Central Avenue.
Address: P.O. Box 1022, Savage, Md. 20763-1022 for all correspondence.
Internet:www.T-MARC.org.
E–mail: TMARC@T–MARC.org
Officers: President – Larry DiAnna WA3KOK (410) 792-3494, ldanna@teamvideo.com. CC Chairman – Bill Conaway W8HNT (703) 425-3702, conaways@erols.com. Ombudsman – Jim Erickson K3LFO (410) 549-1041 k3lfo@erols.com. Public Info. Officer – Dave Prestel W8AJR (410) 203-9432 dprestel @sprintmail.com.

Attention: Repeater Owners! Repeater Directory Update

It is time to update the information in T–MARC's database of coordinated repeaters. This information will also be passed along to the ARRL for use in the 2000 issue of the Repeater Directory. If you are the owner or license trustee of a repeater in T–MARC's coordination area, please supply the information requested below for each repeater and send it to Bill Conaway, W8HNT. You may e-mail it to him at conaways@erols.com or snail mail it T–MARC, PO Box 1022, Savage, MD 20763-1022. An electronic copy of the form is available at www.T-MARC.org.

We need the information as soon as possible.

Output Frequency
Input Frequency
State
Location (City or Named Locality)
Repeater Call Sign
Repeater's Sponsoring Group/Call sign

Last Update Date
County, Area
Input Tone Access Frequency
Output Tone Access Frequency

Check all of the following that apply:

- ❑ Open Repeater?
- ❑ Autopatch?
- ❑ Closed Autopatch?
- ❑ Remote Base?
- ❑ ARES Affiliation?
- ❑ RACES Affiliation?
- ❑ Weather Net/Usage?
- ❑ Long Tone Zero for Emergency Alert?
- ❑ Bi-Lingual?
- ❑ Demo/Experimental?
- ❑ Touch tone user access to special features?
- ❑ Shared Non-Protected Pair?
- ❑ Emergency Power?
- ❑ Natural Power?
- ❑ Linked/Cross–band System?
- ❑ Wide Area Coverage?
- ❑ Portable System?
- ❑ Packet Capability?
- ❑ RTTY/ASCII System?
- ❑ Direct Access to Law Enforcement?

Vienna Wireless Society

Meetings: 7:30 pm the second and fourth Fridays of the month at the Vienna Elementary School, 128 Center Street South, in Vienna.
Nets: Pow-Wow nightly at 9 pm on 28.444 MHz. Slow speed code, nightly 8:30 pm on 28.390 MHz. Vienna Emergency Net, Wednesday 7:30 pm 146.685(-).
Repeaters: K4HTA 146.685(-), 448.375(-).
Information: Steven Karty, N5SK, president, (703) 938-5454; Training: Kurt Wehle, WA4SMI, (703) 534-3905; Programs: Mike Steussy, AE4R, (703) 281-0010. Newsletter Editor and Media Representative: Jim Parsons, WA4LTO, (703) 392-0150.
Mailing: P.O. Box 418, Vienna, VA 22183

John Kanode, N4MM, ARRL Director of the Roanoke Division was the guest speaker at our regular meeting on 10 September 1999. He said that the purpose of the ARRL's Technology Task Force is to look at new technologies and their application to the amateur radio service.

ARRL Roanoke Division Vice Director, Dennis Bodson, W4PWF, (who was our 1999 VWS Banquet speaker) was the principal focal point within the ARRL Board of Directors for the proposed spread spectrum rule changes. These came to fruition in the FCC's release of the new rules about 3 weeks ago.

A special collector's edition of The ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs was announced in the October 1999 QST magazine.

The National Weather Service will be operating a special event station on 27 November 1999, the last Saturday of the official hurricane season, and is offering a participation certificate for working it.

The ARRL-sponsored DXCC Millennium (formerly DXCC 2000) contest will feature an award for working 100 stations during the year 2000. Deleted countries and new entities not yet designated as 'countries' cannot be used to win these awards. The international community determines whether or not a particular land mass is a 'country' by 1) UN membership, 2) having an IARU society, or 3) having an official callsign prefix.

In order to use more of the ham-assigned spectrum in the new millennium, the ARRL is extending the DX Challenge to all HF bands, adding one band every 6 months, starting with 20M and then going to 10M. The 40M, 80M and 160M bands are already in the award system.

The FCC decision on license restructuring, which was to have been made this summer, probably won't come out until the end of the year. The CW requirements will be retained, probably 5

wpm for the lower classes and 12 or 13 wpm for higher-class licenses. The number of license classes will likely be either 3 or 4. The recent FCC enforcement efforts to rid the 20M and 75M bands of repeat offenders seem to be working, and the 10M band should be one of the next targets.

The FCC's Laurel, MD field office operates tracking equipment to pinpoint the location of an offender. Prosecution of only a few major cases each year should be sufficient to ensure compliance by most hams. The idea of the enforcement is not to punish but to urge compliance with the rules.

One VWS member asked if the ARRL could help with the long and confusing Universal Licensing System (ULS), the FCC's electronic filing for all types of communications licenses. It would be nice if hams could check into the ARRL web page and fill in a simple data entry screen with the required information. Then an ARRL computer could reformat the data into whatever is required by the FCC's computer. John said it sounded interesting, but didn't know if it was possible, and promised to pass the idea along to ARRL Headquarters.

Boat Anchors:

Pete Sypher, KC4SI, exhibited an air-cooled 6623 transmitting tube manufactured by Westinghouse, with heavy braided leads and a cooling fin arrangement. He also showed another tube, an IMAC 2-150d high-current rectifier, featuring two parallel-connected diodes in a single envelope. His third exhibit was a cat's whisker crystal set manufactured in 1960. He said that there were hams using crystal sets as their contest receivers. One modern refinement, a 'bird dog' (a modern transistor radio) was mounted on one end to locate weak signals to facilitate the tuning of the crystal set.

Jim Richey, WA4URR, said he was rebuilding a Viking Ranger II and found an ID plate engraved with the name and military unit of the soldier who previously operated it.

Mike Steussy, AE4R, showed his newest acquisition, a Heathkit SB-401 SSB transmitter, given by VWS member Mac McClain, KC4IGS.

At our regular meeting on 24 September 1999, Ted Cohen, N4XX, talked about the sunspot cycle and how we could produce our own short-term propagation forecasts. This talk was just in time because of the increase in HF activity expected this fall. Dr. Cohen, who is a noted expert in the fine art of ionospheric propagation, began with a general description of sunspots and their cyclical nature. He noted that the average cycle is about 10.8 years in length and that the cycles are numbered beginning with the first one recorded by the Zurich Observatory around 1749. The current cycle, therefore, is number 23.

He showed a 'butterfly chart' showing the pattern of sunspots from the beginning to the end of the cycle (new-cycle spots are first seen at the middle solar latitudes, and the spots appear closer to the solar equator as the cycle matures).

He next discussed what effect the Sun's ultraviolet radiation has on the maximum useable frequency for DX contacts in the summer and winter. He mentioned another term not often used, the 'lowest useable frequency' which also controls our ability to communicate, and said that when the lowest useable frequency is higher than the maximum useable frequency, you would be better off sleeping or cutting grass since nothing will propagate (this is known as a 'blackout').

His next topic was the part played by the various solar flux and geomagnetic indices, both local and global, in propagation forecasting, saying that for a given location you are trying to reach, readings of geomagnetic indices along the intended path, rather than global average, may be a better indicator. This is especially true for high-latitude paths on 160 meters. Dr. Cohen then described how, in conjunction with the propagation tables published in CQ magazine every other month, we can make our own forecasts for anyplace we want to call. He reminded us that if we found good

propagation on any given day, similar conditions would probably be repeated 27 days later, especially during the later years of a solar cycle.

He continued with the topic of geomagnetic disturbances that disrupt propagation, especially in the areas around the poles (that is, the high-latitude paths). Solar flares can cause a sudden ionosphere disturbance (SID) as well as a lingering geomagnetic storm that will begin 24-36 hours later. In his concluding remarks, Dr. Cohen noted that the solar radiation that produces an intense geomagnetic storm is capable of destroying satellite solar panels and of damaging circuits in communication and other satellites. Also, long power lines (e.g., in Canada), which act as huge antennas, could experience high induced currents, with the result that the power grid may shut down. After Dr. Cohen answered a few questions from the audience, Mike Steussy, AE4R, VWS program coordinator, thanked him and invited him back to speak about 160-meter communications. That program will be on 22 OCT 1999.

Leading Edge: Kerry Kingham, WA4BQM, again asked for the early submission of articles and offered writing hints.

CURRENT & FUTURE EVENTS

Please note that the VWS has only one regular meeting in November and one in December; there will be no meetings on 26 November and 24 December.

4 OCT - VWS Board of Directors Meeting

8 OCT - Regular Meeting: VWS member Ed Kesler will talk on the demise of ham radio equipment manufacturers Hallicrafters and National.

22 OCT - Regular Meeting: Ted Cohen, N4XX will continue his propagation forecasting talk, with special emphasis on 160 meters. Suggested background reading for his presentation includes The New Shortwave Propagation Handbook which Dr. Cohen wrote with George Jacobs, W3ASK (CQ Propagation Editor), and Robert Rose, K6GKU. This book covers ionospheric propagation for the HF bands, and it provides all of the background information needed to make 27-day propagation forecasts, allowing the most productive use of the radio spectrum, regardless of the time of day, season of the year, or state of the sunspot cycle. Completely revised and updated, this book provides information on sunspot activity, unusual propagation effects, forecasting tips, and do-it-yourself propagation predictions. It is available for $19.95 from the CQ Bookstore, CQ Communications, Inc., 25 Newbridge Road, Hicksville, NY 11801, telephone 1-800-853-9797. Orders below $50 need an additional $4 for shipping and handling. Online ordering is also available through http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/webstore.html which is the CQ Website. Click on CQ's Online Webstore and then click on the book title which follows Item Code SWP.

1 NOV - VWS Board of Directors Meeting

12 NOV - Regular Meeting: Elections for the VWS Board of Directors. If time permits, VWS member Kerry Kingham, WA4BQM, will describe how the Global Positioning Systems (GPS) works.

6 DEC - VWS Board of Directors Meeting

10 DEC - Regular Meeting: Holiday party. We'll also have our annual members' and guests' show and tell.

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Web Page: http://www.pwcweb.com/wwi/

WOODBRIDGE WIRELESS DEMO FOR SCOUTS

Woodbridge Wireless presented a Ham Radio presentation and demo to about 35 scouts on September 28th. This was an unplanned club event, but went very well.

Besides a short presentation and WWI public service video, there were propagation demonstrations, and VHF and HF radio time. Two scouts have already earned their Tech license and their Radio merit badge. Thanks to W4CE, KG4DFJ, KC4YXB, and W4DC for the on-site Demos, and to WB4ZNH, W4DAV, WJ4M, and KB3DMO for on the air help.

WELCOME TWO NEW YOUNG HAMS

Ben Kidd KG4EIF and Brian Myhre KG4DMM have recently earned their Amateur Radio license, their Scout Radio merit badge, and are new members of WWI. Please welcome them and all our young hams on the air, and at our gatherings. Ben and Brian are now studying the code.

Woodbridge Wireless is fortunate to have over 15 young hams in the club including KE4EZD Jon, KG4BHS Max, KG4DFI Michael, KF4DFJ Adam, K4JEN Jen, to name a few. It is by no mistake however, that we have one of the lowest average age members in the area.

Sponsoring JOTA, providing amateur radio classes, opening our field day to all hams, doing ham demos, being visible while helping at high school crew races, and other public services, give our club and amateur radio positive enforcement, and high visibility.

Lets keep up the good work. Welcome to Ben and Brian.

IN MEMORY OF TOM MOYERS, N3XT (AC4XT) 1943 - 1999

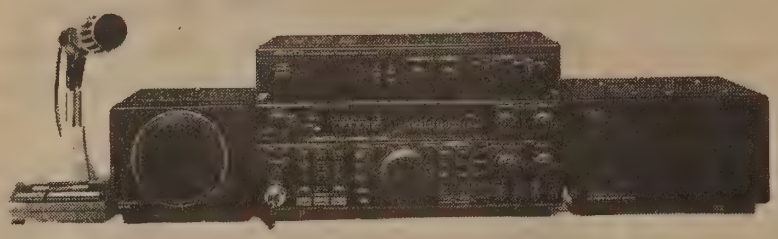
Tom became a "silent key" on September 20th, after a battle with cancer. Tom knew when he saw a good thing, and earned his extra ham license and joined the Woodbridge Wireless shortly after his daughter, Theresa, earned her amateur license while attending Garfield High School in 1990.

Tom found his niche in amateur radio as a CW operator. He even operated CW from his mobile. Later he joined FISTs, which is a CW club, and made friends all around the country. Tom also got his brother-in-law, Ron from Pennsylvania interested in ham radio.

Tom was a WWI Field Day regular, manning the 15 meter CW position with John K4JK, and also was a regular at the WWI Friday noon luncheons.

In 1998, he retired from the Army's Night Vision Laboratory at Ft. Belvoir, and recently moved to Spotsylvania where he was planning to put up some antennas.

Tom will be missed from the ranks of WWI. I hope Tom joins up with Sherm, Joe, Nick, Ted, and other WWI SKs. Rest in peace.



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FOR SALE: EIMAC tube socket SK620A (new), silver-plated with bypass capacitor and mounting clips. $15.00. Ceramic Chimney, E.F. Johnson part no. 124-0111-001 (new) $5.00. Two 4X150's (new) and two used 4CX250's (used) $5.00. Back issues of QST (1962-1990) and QEX (1989-1996) $20.00. Dick, K3TND, (301) 384-6366.

FOR SALE: ICOM IC-746 HF/VHF TRANSCEIVER, with AH-4 automatic antenna tuner, FL 52A and FL-100, 500 Hz cw filters, SM-20 desk microphone, SP-21 external speaker, Astron SS25M switching power supply. Used very little; in original boxes. . Sell as package - $1800. Daiwa PS-880 regulated power supply 0-15V,0-40A, $150. Bird Model 43 thruline wattmeter and 6 standard bird elements, $350. Greg WSZNT, phone (703) 905-8091, email gregtybe@earthlink.net.

FOR SALE: MFJ-949D 300 Watt Antenna Tuner, very clean, includes dummy load, Cross-Needle SWRJWattmeter and manual, $50. Ernie Farkas, K3CBW, (301) 668-1158, e.farkas@juno.com.

FOR SALE: Heath SB 230 linear amplifier. Covers 10-80 (no 160). the 8873 tube can be driven by very low power. Stored long time, looks like new. Have moved to an apartment house. $150.00.

Lakeview Co. (advertised in QST) trimgnet mount and companion Ham Stick antenna - mobile 40 meters, half price, $29.00. W4EGU, W.B. Knight, 4800 Fillmore Ave #1354, Alexandria, VA 22311.

FOR SALE: Tri-band Array-Telrex TB6EM antenna. New price was $655. Will consider serious reasonable offer. Call Hollis, KC3X at (410) 867-2430 after 5 PM or hthigpen@worldnet.att.net.

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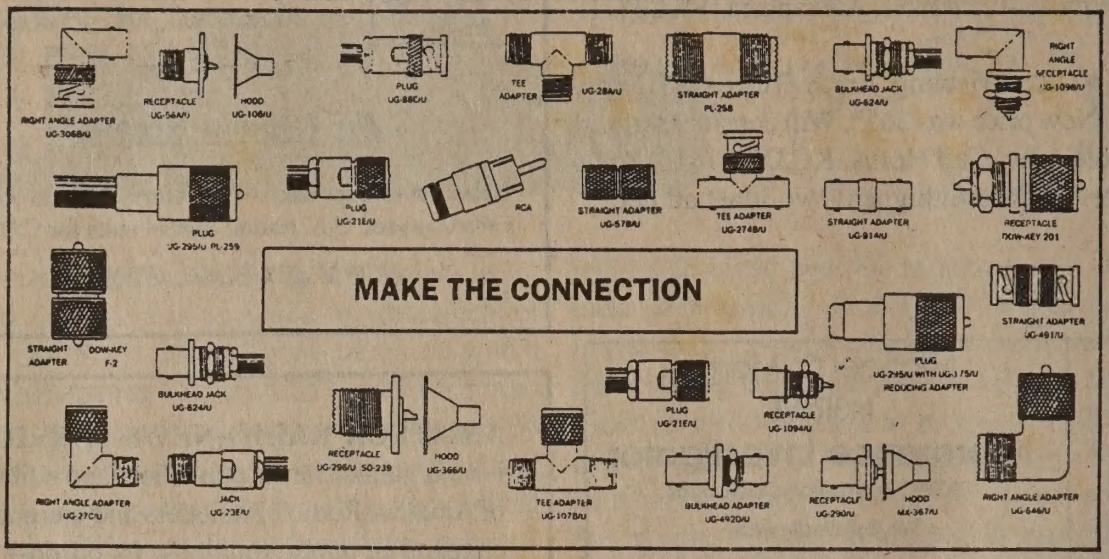

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